

HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LI.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1900.

No. 15

CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	251
Leading Articles:—	
Want of Policy in China	252
Disingenuous Ministerial Explanations	252
China in the House of Commons	253
Hongkong Legislative Council	254
Supreme Court	254
The Piratical Attack on the "Tung Kong"	255
The Departure of the Hon. T. H. Whitehead	255
Sad Discovery in a Hongkong Hotel	256
Russia and Corea	256
Avenging the Boundary Commission Murders	257
Water Return	257
Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals	257
The Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited	257
Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited	258
The Yang-tze Insurance Association, Limited	258
Correspondence	259
Tientsin	259
Manila	259
Canton	260
Sandakan Notes	260
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	260
Royal Artillery Sports	261
Hongkong Volunteer Corps	261
Trick Cycling in the Happy Valley	261
Hongkong and Port News	262
Commercial	264
Shipping	266

BIRTH.

At 24, Morrison Hill Road, Hongkong, on the 7th inst., the wife of JOHN J. BLAKE, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 7th Ap il, by the Rev. and J. H. France, Chaplain St. Peter's Church, Hongkong, WILLIAM FRANK BANSLEY to ELIZABETH TING.

DEATH.

Captain SMITH, master ss *Taksang*, at sea from cholera on the voyage from Bangkok. Buried on 1st inst., on Island of Puluway.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 9th March arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 9th April (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Gonzales and Morales, two well-known Philippine ladrones, were executed at Carlos on the 30th ult.

It is reported from Amoy that H.M.S. *Alacrity*, with His Excellency Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour on board, arrived there on the 7th inst.

H.M.S. *Edgar* (Captain E. G. Fleet) arrived at Hongkong on the 11th instant. She brings reliefs for the China squadron and left Plymouth on the 2nd ult.

H.M.S. *Centurion* returned to Hongkong from practice on the 11th inst. and left again next day for Nagasaki, whence she will proceed to Weihaiwei to await the arrival of the Admiral.

It is announced from Newchwang that Mr. Hosie, British Consul and Chairman of the local Sanitary Board, is going home on leave via Siberia. It is understood that he will be relieved by Mr. Fulford of the Legation.

A diplomatic report on the finances of Denmark for the last three years notes the starting of the so-called "East Indian Company" for the purpose of developing the relations between Denmark and the Far East, and in particular with Siam.

News has arrived from Allahabad that Mr. A. H. Gunter, Punjab Civil Service, and Lieutenant Green, R.E., were murdered last month while out shooting near Bahkadr, North West Frontier. No details are given, and no motive is assigned for the crime.

Official notification has been received in Manila, but not as yet published, that the Eighth Army Corps is to cease to exist, and that the military forces of the United States in the Philippines are to constitute a separate department to be known as the Department of the Philippines.

On the 28th of last month there was nearly a riot at Weihaiwei, some 700 Chinese having assembled, with arms of a most curious variety, to protest against paying taxes. About 420 of the Chinese Regiment, however, surrounded the malcontents and, behaving admirably, succeeded in disarming their compatriots without a single fight.

The Emperor of Japan will visit Kobe about the middle of this month to inspect the Naval manoeuvres and review the fleet. The details are not made public. It is reported, however, to be the intention of the Japanese Government to allow the public to witness the manoeuvres when they shall have reached that stage in which the contending squadrons engage in fighting.

It turns out that the tax to be imposed on Japanese tea godowns at Vladivostock was due to the mistake of the officials! A telegram has reached the Central Board of Tea Guilds from its representative at Vladivostock, stating that it has been decided that no tax shall be imposed on the tea godowns, the attempt that was made to impose the tax being in consequence of a misinterpretation of the law on the part of the officials. Japanese tea merchants have been apparently as successful as Japanese fishermen.

"We are glad to see," says a West River correspondent, "that H.M.S. *Tweed*, accompanied by torpedo boat No. 38, has again appeared on the West River to check, if not suppress, piracy in these waters. Since H.M.S. *Sandpiper* met with her accident and returned to Hongkong, there have been two cases of piracy, both attended with loss of life. We also feel great pleasure that Mr. McGill, who, when in charge of the ill-fated torpedo boat No. 36, made himself so popular on the river, has returned again, this time in command of torpedo boat No. 38, a better and a faster craft, which shows that the Naval Authorities have the same good opinion of Mr. McGill as have his numerous friends and acquaintances."

Captain Sherman, of the *Wo Kwai*, which runs between Wuchow and Hongkong, arrived in Hongkong harbour on the 8th inst. and reported a brush with pirates at Wong Mun pass the previous day. Two boats loaded with armed men suddenly made their appearance and shots were fired at his vessel, several striking her. As soon as the pirates made their appearance the crew rushed down below, but Captain Sherman prevented the men in the wheel-house from escaping by erecting a barricade of bales of feathers which he was bringing down to Hongkong as cargo. The Captain then seized his Winchester and, though alone, prepared to give the pirates a warm reception. He fired two or three shots at the pirates, who deemed it prudent to get out of the way. The *Wong Kwai* had passed H.M.S. *Tweed* and a torpedo boat about seven miles up the river.

It was reported in Shanghai mandarin circles on the 3rd inst. that Their Excellencies Sheng and Nieh, in conjunction with Sir Robert Hart, have succeeded in obtaining Sir Claude MacDonald's consent to an addition of 7 per cent *ad valorem* to the duty on foreign imports making the future duty 12 per cent. in all. Further that the duty on opium will remain as before, as also duties on Chinese goods.

Judge W. H. Taft, the recently appointed president of the Philippine Commission, spoke on the subject of the Philippines at a dinner in his honour in Cincinnati last month. He said:—"The commission is not organized. Its members have never conferred together. I speak therefore for myself alone. I am not now and never have been an expansionist. I have always hoped that the jurisdiction of our nation would not extend beyond territory between the two oceans. We have not solved all the problems of popular government so perfectly as to justify our voluntarily seeking more difficult ones abroad. I do not think, in this instance, that we have voluntarily sought them. Circumstances beyond our control, the sequel of the Spanish war, have thrust on us responsibility for the future government of the Philippines. The proposition is vigorously denied by high-minded and conscientious men, and by some with a fury of superlative and epithet that is hardly consistent with a judicial attitude or an impartial consideration of the question. My conviction is that the calm investigation of the future historian into all the conditions existing at the time of taking each step toward the present situation in the Philippines will lead him to conclude that President McKinley and his administration selected in each crisis the only alternative which a due regard to our national and international obligations would permit."

A correspondent who has recently visited North Borneo speaks very hopefully of the prospects of the new port of Jesselton, situated in Gaya Bay on the west coast of North Borneo. It will be remembered that it is to be the terminus of a railway, the other end of which is at Beaufort on the Padas River, whence the existing line runs to Weston. A contract for this Jesselton-Beaufort line has been signed by the British North Borneo Company in London, and construction is to commence almost at once. Jesselton is situated almost opposite the old settlement on Gaya Island, burned by Mat Salih four years ago. The Gantian settlement at the northern end of Gaya Bay was formed to replace it, but it has not been found a very suitable spot, and to carry the railway line along to Gantian, instead of stopping two or three miles below at Jesselton, would mean a big bridge over the Inanam river, which would be a costly proceeding. The new spot is much better adapted both as a settlement and as a port. The pier to be constructed—which will have the railway taken to its head—will have a depth of 26 ft. of water, quite sufficient for all the shipping that is likely to require accommodation for some years to come. It is hoped that with these facilities and with the production of coal, which exists along the track of the railway, that the Admiralty may be induced to look favourably on Gaya Bay as a naval base. At the present time the necessary Government buildings, the Resident's house and Constabulary Barracks are being constructed at Jesselton. On their completion the Resident will take up his post there and Gantian will be abandoned.

WANT OF POLICY IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 7th April.)

Is there a British Minister at Peking? The question might well seem childish, and doubtless, in ordinary times, we should be open to the charge of foolishness for asking it. The fact is, however, that, for all useful purposes, we might as well at once withdraw our Legation, and trust to the good offices of some friendly state, as continue our present system of practical self-annihilation. We are not to be taken as casting the slightest reflection on Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, who under most difficult circumstances has sought to uphold the honour and prestige of his country; but we speak of the utter absence of any sense of the position which has been the marked characteristic of every British Government for the last thirty years. This neglect is unfortunately the appanage of neither side of the House; indeed no statesman of mark has been able to free himself from that web of ignorance and indifference which has been the hall-mark of British diplomacy in the Far East; and it is only at long intervals that the veil is momentarily lifted and we hear a few words of intelligent comment. We would hardly, it is true, be entitled to number Lord CHARLES BERESFORD amongst the statesmen of the day, and his appointment by the Chambers of Commerce to investigate the position of affairs in China was not likely to carry much weight with the Ministry of the time; still, Lord CHARLES BERESFORD did utter some unpleasant truths, which it would have been well had the Ministry taken to heart. Instead of this, Lord CHARLES' words have been relegated to the receptacle of disagreeable communications. And Lord CHARLES himself has been got rid of in a manner better known to the politicians of a past than of the present age, and given promotion which a gallant sailor could not refuse, by being advanced to the second command in the Mediterranean. At best, however, Lord CHARLES BERESFORD lay under a disability in bringing the neglect of the Government before the House, in that he was a Conservative pure and simple, of the old type, who, whatever his personal views, was bound to submit to the exigencies of party discipline. These circumstances combined did, doubtless, tend to take away from the importance of the views promulgated by the Member for York, and have certainly had their natural effect in increasing the neglect of the Government. It may therefore be looked upon as a matter for some little satisfaction that Mr. JOSEPH WALTON, the Liberal Member for the Barnsley Division of the West Riding, who has been recently visiting the Far East, should have taken an early opportunity of declaring the conclusions arrived at by him after his visit to the East. Mr. WALTON, though a member of the Liberal Party, was one of those who refused to countenance the factious attack on Lord SALISBURY's administration raised by Lord E. FITZMAURICE, and may therefore be held to be actuated by motives higher than those of mere party. What he said is worthy of note. Of Peking he told us that he found that "whereas our influence was paramount four years ago, to-day, owing to a policy of drift and surrender, it counts for nothing." Unfortunately this is a view which we ourselves have had to hold, and which we have in duty felt bound to impress, in season and out of season, on the powers that be. It is also the view held without exception, by everyone acquainted with the facts of the case, irrespective of party or faction. Lord SALIS-

BURY has deserved well of the country, and has earned the approbation of all parties by his vigorous prosecution of the War in South Africa. The tactics of those of the Opposition who proposed a vote of censure have certainly not met with the approbation of the nation. But Lord SALISBURY has not had the excuse in his paltry policy in China that he has been held back by any factious opposition. The fact is, of course, that from the very beginning he formed a false idea of the circumstances of the case. His policy of supporting China as a natural counterpoise to Russian encroachment has long since died an ignominious death; the succession of dilettante Ministers, who for years misrepresented persistently the position at Peking, has long ago failed to exist: Sir THOMAS WADE and his pro-Manchu tendencies have long since ceased to influence men's minds, and yet Lord SALISBURY has been unable to extricate himself from the net, and still compels his Minister in Peking to pose as the supporter of misrule, and the complaisant coadjutor of France and Russia in their well-laid scheme to reduce to a nullity the Imperial power. One of the strangest features of our traditional policy in China has been the persistency with which the British representative at Peking has been ignored in favour of the representations proceeding from Portland Place. Sir CHIH CHENG LO FENG LO is doubtless a very interesting personality; he has a charming manner and possesses a wonderful knowledge of the English language and English prejudices, and privately his sympathies would lead him, no doubt, to a much needed reformation in his native country; but the Chinese Minister is the representative of the Government *de facto*, not of any party, and has to conform to the wishes of his momentary mistress. Would Lord SALISBURY have him act the traitor's part, and, nominally representing his Government, be really the agent of what, however right may be its aims, is still unfortunately in China only an aspiration? If this be not the idea of the Prime Minister, it is difficult to discover any other ground for his action. We have recently had occasion, almost *ad nauseam*, to point out the intrigue being carried on at Peking, having for its object the destruction of British influence; it is by no means reassuring to find that Lord SALISBURY has by his indifference been the most able promoter of that intrigue. It is, we are prepared to state unhesitatingly, mainly owing to Lord SALISBURY's credulity that the present crisis has been brought about. It is not for us to point out what our course of policy should be; we do not know all the other circumstances of the case, but we have no hesitation in stating openly that if any amelioration of our present inferior position is to be looked for, it must be in an entirely different course of procedure from that which has lately met with acceptance at Lord SALISBURY's hands. Mr. JOSEPH WALTON's remarks will meet with the approval of every man capable of forming an unbiassed opinion, to whichever side of the House his political opinion may incline, and we sincerely hope that before it is too late, Lord SALISBURY will wake up to the importance of the issues really at stake. These issues are not merely commercial; they extend to our position as an imperial power in Asia. It is one of the penalties attaching to greatness that we should always have to stand prepared to resist attack on every side; the course of the war in Africa has indicated that our Empire has been founded on no

false assumptions of a power we did not possess; the Empire has well stood the strain involved. Fortunately the object lesson has for the moment not been thrown away, but to utilise the newly discovered power it is necessary to prove that we are not prepared to repeat the errors of our past policy of ever turning our cheek to the blow of the smiter. The world is not yet quite convinced that what we say we are prepared to stick to, and we shall, unless we convince our neighbours that we intend to have something to say in the future of China, find ourselves relegated to a position which will eventually involve greater sacrifices than even our campaign in South Africa.

DISINGENUOUS MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.

(Daily Press, 10th April.)

The speech of the Rt. Honourable Sir JOHN BRODRICK, Lord SALISBURY's Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to Mr. WALTON's complaints of the neglect by his chief of Chinese affairs, can hardly be looked upon as a disingenuous statement of the position, nor can it be considered as consonant with the Prime Minister's previous record as an honourable Minister of the Crown. We have indeed only Lord SALISBURY's own word for the very remarkable statement that British interests have suffered no loss of prestige at Peking; if we are to judge of the opinion of the Continental Powers by their actions, we must arrive at a very different conclusion from that so perseveringly put forward by our Foreign Office, and believe that British interests are altogether neglected. At all events it is invariably the case that the British Minister is the very last to hear of what is going on; and as for consulting him or asking his opinion beforehand—that is a course which never enters into the minds of anyone. Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD is indeed left severely alone, and has to possess his soul in such self-complacency as may befit the case. Nor is the reason far to seek. Lord SALISBURY is not an adept at the game of brag. He tried it on in Peking, and the result has been eminently unsatisfactory; so unsatisfactory, that unless he holds better cards than he has as yet been able to show, he had almost better throw up the game. Even more unworthy of Lord SALISBURY's previous reputation was the insinuation that the shortcomings of the Government were to be attributed to the neglect of the English Syndicates to enter on the concessions granted. The Government knows well that, at the time the concessions were granted, there was every intention to proceed at once with the works required; it knows also equally well that the reason why the concessions have not long ago been taken up has proceeded from political causes; and that the chief of these was an entire want of confidence, amply justified by the facts, in Lord SALISBURY himself. But even more injurious to the character of the Government in this wretched business has been the attempt to curry favour with the Chinese government by a distinct warring of fact. China was justified, the telegram tells us, in requiring some substantial progress and asking that a serious undertaking, such as that of the Peking Syndicate, should be pressed onward. Herein, we are willing to confess, really lies the point of the issue, but the delay and listlessness lies at the doors of the Government and not with the Syndicate. By a curious coincidence the very despatch which brought Mr. BRODRICK's speech also brought the news of the decision of the arbitrators in the case

of the Delagoa Railway arbitration, whereby we learnt that after a delay of more than nine years this simple case, which a court of law would have decided in a sitting, remained *sub judice* over nine years. We may suggest that the case should never have been permitted to go to arbitration at all, or if it had, that a reasonable limit of time should have been imposed on the arbitrators. In any case the result is not reassuring; the capitalists who, in spite of a concession, even, if possible, more binding than that of the Chinese Government to the Peking Syndicate, had their property quietly confiscated, and thanks to the easy-going good nature of their Government had to remain for nine long years in a state of suspense as to whether a plain contract, against which there was absolutely no complaint of its having been obtained by unfair means, or under conditions contravening the ordinary practice of nations, was permitted to slumber for a period which marks a notable term in a nation's development. Was the care and assiduity devoted by Lord SALISBURY to Chinese affairs such as to afford any hope to the Peking Syndicate that, had it sunk as large a sum in developing the mines and railway of Shansi, it would have found itself in any better position than the unfortunate undertakers in the Delagoa Railway? So far indeed from the hesitation of the financial supporters of the Syndicate to commence work affording any justification for the extraordinary speech of the Parliamentary Secretary, it is one of the strong points of complaint against the present Government, that by their neglect of affairs in China they have so forfeited the confidence of the capitalists, that the Syndicates have one and all felt it absolutely impossible to raise the amounts required in the face of the ignorance and lack of energy displayed at Downing Street. To understand this position we have only to refer to one or two cases, to show how little is the influence really exerted by the British Government at Peking. Most of our readers will remember the positive terms in which Lord SALISBURY spoke of "the Open Door Policy" which, whatever happened, was to assure to England equal participation in all the good things to fall to any nation in China; we may recall how much England had to say in the occupation of Shingking, or of Kiochow, or of Luchow. We may recall that Lord SALISBURY solemnly assured us, in so many words, that he had made a convention with China, ensuring that she would never cede the Yangtse Valley to any other Power. We know what this convention came down to when sifted—that "China would never cede to any Power" the Yangtse Valley. This is a meaningless stipulation, which, if it implied anything, might be held to indicate that England alone was debarred from the central provinces. The Minister made too some very firm assertions about our "Sphere of Influence" in Mid China, and we know how ignominiously it collapsed when the "Belgian" Syndicate, itself ostentatiously the creature of Russia, and openly financed by the Russo-Chinese Bank, obtained the concession for the most important line in China, —that connecting Peking with Hankow.

Now we are not going to say that at any time it was within the power of the British Minister to accomplish all these things. We are well aware that even when Lord SALISBURY was boasting of his successes the time was already past; and the Continental Powers had determined that no matter they differed on other points, on one they had made up their minds, and that was that Great Britain was to be precluded from any

benefit that might arise in the coming struggle for the good things of China. Making due allowance for all this, which was perfectly well known to all the Legations, it was hardly the place of the Minister to put himself and his nationals in the false position of making promises and encouraging hopes, which no one knew better than himself were beyond his power to carry out. Far better would it have been to have accepted the inevitable, and to have tidied over the interval. All things, said a wise man, come to him who knows how to wait, and it is likely that, had Lord SALISBURY presumed less, he would have had more to show as a result. One of his most capable predecessors gained for himself the not inappropriate title of "the Rupert of Debate" by his habit of always charging at the wrong moment. We may ask how long would it have taken Sir REDVERS BRIDGES to have relieved Ladysmith, had not more cautious tactics been adopted than that of always charging into the enemy's strongest point? Had the Prime Minister been less prodigal of his assertions, and understood better the nature of the task before him, he would have been spared the necessity of inspiring such an ignominious acknowledgment of utter failure as is disclosed in Mr. BRODRICK's untruthful attempt to retire from an untenable position.

CHINA IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(Daily Press, 11th April.)

From the last mail it will be seen that a number of important matters in connection with the position of Britain in China came up before the House of Commons in the early part of last month, previous to the debate on which we commented yesterday. The first point discussed was in the course of the debate on the Navy Estimates, when Sir J. COLOMB asked, with reference to the sum of £13,000 for Weihaiwei, what was the real policy of the Admiralty with reference to this port, and repeated his opinion that only two courses were possible—either to make it a Gibraltar, or to spend no more money than was necessary to make it into a coal-store. He was followed by Admiral FIELD, who said he was glad to find that Weihaiwei was to receive an expenditure of £13,000. It was recognised as an important secondary base, and for the protection of the harbour from torpedo-boats at night there should be a short inner breakwater with openings. In reply, Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN said he could add little to the statements made last year about Weihaiwei. "Length of time for communication on details," he said, "was one difficulty, and work there had to be undertaken after conference with military authorities, and recent events had left those authorities little opportunity for such conference. Up to the present, they had sent out a dredger from Malta, which was steadily at work deepening the harbour to a depth of thirty feet. A further small sum, probably between £3,000 and £4,000, was being expended at the discretion of the commander-in-chief in repairs to the pier, office accommodation, and fitting Chinese shops for the reception of machinery. The report of the year's work was not yet ready." In fact, there was little in Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN's reply to encourage the hope that the Government had made up its mind about the worth of Weihaiwei or is likely to do so for some time to come. And yet we cannot believe that the talk about its abandonment is as serious even as was similar talk in the early days of Hongkong.

Hongkong escaped this ignominious fate to become what it is now, the third port of the world. Weihaiwei, in the facilities which it offers for trade cannot, of course, be compared with this colony, but, as we have insisted before, the establishment of a sufficient communication between Weihaiwei and the rest of the world would give the place an excellent chance of attracting a portion of the Shantung export trade; and with its own military government, after the plan of Gibraltar, with its own Post Office, Treasury, and Land Office, then we may repeat our hope of a busy commercial community springing up under the shadow of its fortifications.

The second point arose out of Sir CHARLES DILKE's question as to what progress had been made in China towards the full opening to trade of the West River, and of rivers generally, when the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs replied that it was impossible to give a complete account of the position, but the Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls, included in the papers now being prepared for Parliament, contained full information on the subject. "According to the latest information," he added, "trade is steadily increasing on the West River." Increase in itself, however, is not necessarily satisfactory, if it is demonstrable that there is every right to look for a much larger increase if only the proper carrying out of existing concessions is insisted on. Mr. BRODRICK's reply is of the same evasive character which we noted yesterday in his explanations to Mr. WALTON. We have advocated before, more than once, the formation of a Committee, formed of the Consuls at Canton and West River ports, and members of the Government and Chambers of Commerce here, as an Advisory Board to their Excellencies the Governor and H.M. Minister to China, to enquire into the reasons which make the Inland Waters Concession a mere sham. Until this is done we have not any faith in an amelioration of our position in China.

The third point was raised by the indefatigable Mr. WALTON when he asked, on the 8th ult., whether Her Majesty's Government would actively co-operate with the United States Government in the endeavour to arrive at an agreement between the Powers interested in China which would secure equal opportunities for the trade of all nations throughout the Chinese Empire, irrespective of any territorial changes that might take place. He was told that "papers on the subject" would shortly be laid before the House, which he interpreted as meaning that the Government would make no effort. He was rebuked by the Speaker for expressing this opinion, but it is to be feared that his conclusion was justified by inferences from the past inaction of Britain in China. It is difficult to believe that the statesman who sees no loss of British prestige in China during the last few years is going to be energetic in the matter of resisting encroachment on the part of wide-awake rivals.

Unabashed by his rebuff, Mr. WALTON proceeded to enquire what steps were being taken to carry out the opening of the port of Nanning, which was announced early last year, and went on to the question of the Inland Waterways again. Mr. BRODRICK would only vouchsafe the reply that "Her Majesty's Minister at Peking had repeatedly pressed the Chinese Government to carry out the opening of Nanning. They still awaited the report of the Governor of the province on the arrangements that would be necessary, but had promised Sir C. MACDONALD to direct him to send it in with-

"out delay. The navigation of the inland waters by British vessels had been successfully initiated in various parts of China. The papers shortly to be laid before the House would show that considerable progress had been made. Her Majesty's Minister at Peking would continue to give careful attention to the matter." Such optimism would be more amusing were it less criminal. How long is China's policy of procrustation and fraud to be denounced by everyone and acquiesced in by the Government? That Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD should direct LI HUNG-CHANG to send in the report without delay—what a farce is this, when Sir CLAUDE is left powerless to insist? "Her Majesty's Minister will continue to give careful attention to the matter." To distinguish our policy from that of "The Mailed Fist," we might style it "The Policy of the Power of the Human Eye."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 11th inst. a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY the ACTING GOVERNOR (Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G., Officer Commanding the Troops).

The Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (ACTING Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN.

Hon. H. C. NICOLLE.

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

TAKING THE OATH.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY and the Hon. A. W. Brewin took the oath.

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the report of the Finance Committee, No 6, and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE BELLIOS REFORMATORY.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—In the absence of the honourable member for the Chamber of Commerce, I beg to ask the questions standing in his name. The questions are:—

(1) Does the Government, in view of the fact that a large area of recently cut soil is exposed all round the building, consider it safe to send boys into the "Bellios Reformatory" at Causeway Bay at any time within the next two years?

(2) Will the Government before sending any boys into the Reformatory obtain a detailed medical report as to the sanitary condition of the surroundings of the Reformatory?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In answer to the first point of the question, I have to state it is not the case that a large area of recently cut soil is exposed all round the building. The site on which the Reformatory stands was, cut years ago, and no soil has been cut to speak of within the last 18 months. In answer to the second part of the question, I have to state that undoubtedly the Government before placing boys in the Reformatory will obtain a medical report as to the fitness of the Institution for their reception. The site is not likely to be a feverish one, for the buildings occupied by Europeans in the immediate vicinity are free from fever, and moreover I am informed by the architect that the workmen who have been engaged in erecting the building have not suffered from fever, which is a very hopeful sign. It has been generally found that when a building is going to be feverish the workmen engaged on it are subject to fever.

RECTIFYING A MISTAKE.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the following Bill was read a first time:—A Bill entitled An Ordinance to validate and legalize the proceedings of the Legislative Council of this Colony during the time that Mr. Arthur Winbolt Brewin illegally sat as a member of such Council, under an invalid provisional appointment.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the suspension of the standing orders. He considered that it would be a pity they should have to meet two or three times to pass this Bill, which had been rendered necessary by a technical mistake.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL then proposed the second reading of the Bill. He observed that he did not know that it was necessary to add anything to the "objects and reasons" at the foot of the Bill, which set out the history of the mistake which had rendered the Bill necessary. The "objects and reasons" were:—

"By the Royal Instructions in force in this colony, Her Majesty declared it to be Her pleasure that the Legislative Council of the colony should consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor (if any), the Senior Military Officer, for the time being in command of Her Majesty's Regular Troops within the colony, the persons for the time being lawfully discharging the functions of Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, and Treasurer of the colony, and such other persons holding offices in the colony, and not exceeding three in number at any one time, as at the time of the receipt of such Instructions in the colony, were Official Members of the said Council or as Her Majesty might from time to time appoint by any Instructions or Warrants under Her Sign Manual and Signet, and that all such persons should be styled *Official Members* of the Legislative Council, and further of certain *Unofficial Members* not exceeding six in number as more particularly set forth in such Instructions.

"It was also further declared by such instructions that if any Member of the Legislative Council, not holding one of the offices above named, should die, or become incapable, or be suspended or removed from his seat in the Council, or be absent from the colony, or if he should resign by writing under his hand, or if his seat should become vacant, the Governor might, by an instrument under the public seal of the colony appoint in his place a fit person, to be provisionally a Member of the said Council.

"In pursuance of Her Majesty's warrant, dated 11th May, 1895, Mr. May was in 1896 sworn and admitted to be an Official Member of the said Council for so long as he should hold his office of Captain Superintendent of Police of the Colony.

"Mr. Lockhart, the Colonial Secretary having left the colony on leave of absence, Mr. May was, on the 9th February, 1900, appointed Acting Colonial Secretary and, thereupon, as being "the person lawfully discharging the functions of Colonial Secretary" he became *ex officio* a Member of the Legislative Council. It seems to have been erroneously assumed that the seat he held in pursuance of the Queen's Warrant thereupon became vacant without any formal resignation thereof by Mr. May, and the Governor, accordingly, on the 9th February, 1900, provisionally appointed Mr. Brewin to be an Official Member of the Legislative Council to fill the supposed vacant seat.

"It now appears that the proper course would have been for Mr. May to have "resigned by writing under his hand" the seat he held in pursuance of Her Majesty's Warrant, and thus to have rendered the seat legally vacant. This course has now been adopted. It is, however, both expedient and necessary to validate and legalize all the proceedings of the Legislative Council while Mr. Brewin was illegally sitting under the invalid provisional appointment."

Continuing, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he was not consulted in the matter. It was supposed that the ordinary course had been taken, and a slip was made. When the mistake was discovered it was thought best to make a clean breast of it and to correct the matter by bringing in this Bill, which would prevent any one objecting to anything done by the Council

while Mr. Brewin had been sitting. As far as he was aware, on no occasion during the period had any motion been carried or lost by one vote only. Therefore, whether Mr. Brewin had been sitting or not would have made no difference as to the results.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The Bill then passed the committee stage and was subsequently read a third time and passed.

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

SUPREME COURT.

April 11th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE SUI WO CHUNG FIRM V. TSUI SHAN CHI.

This was a rehearing arising out of a case which came before Mr. Justice Wise last year, viz., the Sui Wo Chung Firm v. Tsui Ching Fuk and Tsui Shan Chi, being a re-hearing as against the second defendant. The plaintiffs claimed from the defendants the sum of \$1,095 due for goods sold and delivered. The claim was reduced to \$1,000 to bring it within the jurisdiction of the Summary Court.

Mr. Sharp (instructed by Mr. Ewens) appeared for the plaintiff firm, and Mr. Slade (instructed by Mr. Reece) for the defendant.

Mr. Sharp said this was a re-hearing as against the second defendant in a case which was originally heard before Mr. Justice Wise precisely a year ago. The original suit in the present case as against the second defendant was for the sum of \$1,095-18, balance due on goods sold and delivered as per account admitted by the defendant.

Mr. Slade said perhaps he could save time if he said that the debt was originally incurred by the firm, but that the second defendant was not a partner in that firm, and secondly that the debt was settled by payment of a composition.

Mr. Sharp said he quite understood that. He meant to say that he understood that the original debt as against the firm was admitted, not as against the second defendant. He was aware that his friend was going to set up this composition. The history of the case was briefly this. The plaintiffs had had business dealings in Hongkong with the second defendant for very many years—for about eight or nine years. The second defendant at the beginning of such business dealings was not connected with the Nin Yu firm, which so far as they knew was not then in existence, but was accountant to the Sun Shing firm. For some years that the plaintiffs had dealings with the defendant it was as accountant of the Sun Shing firm. Six years ago the defendant came round to the plaintiffs and told them that he was about to set up business on his own account under the style of the Nin Yu firm. He also informed them that his father, who was unknown to them and who, as far as they knew, had never lived in Hongkong, but in Swatow, was to be his partner in this new business. He should be able to call evidence that the second defendant obtained credit for this Nin Yu firm from many of the customers he used to deal with when in the Sun Shing firm, on the statement that this new business was his own business, either wholly or partly. He would draw his Lordship's attention to the various steps in these proceedings. The accounts between the plaintiffs and the Nin Yu firm were settled with punctuality until Chinese New Year, 1899. Then the plaintiffs' accountant, a man who had occupied the post for twenty years, called as was his custom upon the defendant, who represented the Nin Yu firm in Hongkong. It appeared that the second defendant admitted the debt, but he asked for time on the ground that the firm was short of money, as subsequently proved to be the case, but that he hoped he would be able to pay something during the next few months. Several applications were made to the defendant for the money during the course of the next few weeks. Finally the plaintiffs discovered that the defendant had disappeared from Hongkong and gone to

Swatow. Upon this the plaintiffs issued their writs about a month later—on the 13th March—and simultaneously obtained an order for service out of the jurisdiction. The accountant himself went to Swatow to serve the writs upon the two partners in the firm—father and son,—and it was now suggested, and the plaintiffs were quite content to accept it—hence this re-hearing—that there was some irregularity in the service. The two writs seemed to have been served upon the father, the son being apparently out of the house at the time. A month later, on April 14th the case was heard. It was undefended. The second defendant might or might not have been in Hongkong. He was ultimately traced and in July was arrested. Since that time, until a few days ago, he had been in gaol. While in gaol he had made application for his discharge upon the ground that he had no means of satisfying the debt. He appeared before the Puisne Judge, who, however, would not grant the application. The points raised by the defendant now for the first time were first that the service was irregular; the second point, he understood, was that the second defendant was not a partner. The third point was that at some time a composition was alleged to have been arranged between the defendants and their various creditors. The plaintiffs, however, said they never consented to a composition and never heard of it. The fourth point was that the defendant had a defence on the merits of the case.

The evidence for the plaintiff was then given. The case was adjourned *sine die*.

THE PIRATICAL ATTACK ON THE "TUNG KONG."

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

We have received the following full account of the piratical attack on the *Tung Kong* :—

On Tuesday night, April 3rd, the British steamer *Tung Kong* left Hongkong for the purpose of making her usual trip up the West River. We arrived at Wongmoon at 11 o'clock, and after discharging passengers and cargo left again at 11.15 p.m. After steaming for an hour, and arriving at a village known as Tai Nam Mee, she was suddenly attacked by a large gang of pirates who fired at her from both sides of the river. Judging from the number of shots fired, there must have been fully 150 pirates, who were evidently bent on capturing the steamer and robbing the passengers. This is borne on by the fact that the wheel-house was completely riddled with bullets (52 holes being counted), but fortunately the man at the wheel escaped, though how he did so is a miracle. The passengers, however, were less fortunate. One (a youth of 17) was shot dead, the bullet going right through his head; two other passengers were also severely wounded in the left side and have since died of their wounds.

The steamer kept on her course, and the watchman, seeing two sampans coming off from the shore loaded with pirates, fired about a dozen shots at them, and made things so warm that the pirates turned back, leaving the steamer to proceed on her way to Wongmoon, where she arrived at 4.20 a.m. on Wednesday morning and reported her night's adventure to the Customs officials at Wongmoon station. It is hardly necessary to say that, since the *Tung Kong* adventure, all the West River steamers have given Wongmoon and district a wide berth, and consequently all communication with Wongmoon by steamers is practically stopped.

H.M.S. *Tweed* and torpedo boat No. 38 are both up the river. They went up two days after the piracies. They proceeded up the river past Tai Nam Mee. The *Tweed* is at Chao Tan Shan, 40 miles from Tai Nam Mee, and the torpedo boat is cruising in the river 50 miles off Tai Nam Mee.

Our correspondent adds:—"Nothing has been done about the piracies. Although the *Tung Kong* is registered in Hongkong she flies the West River flag. But even if by some quibble of law the *Tung Kong* is not entitled to British protection surely the passengers are."

Plague regulations at Calcutta and the ports of Burmah have been declared against vessels arriving from Aden.

THE DEPARTURE OF THE HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

On the 11th inst. the Hon. T. H. Whitehead, who is leaving for home on Saturday, was the recipient of a very high token of esteem from a representative gathering of Chinese merchants of this colony. The presentation was in the form of an Address and an Embroidered Silk Scroll, while an Allegorical Piece of Plate is to be delivered to him on his arrival in England.

Owing to the absence of Li Sing through indisposition, his son Li Pak, presided, and was supported by Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Pun Hung and Liu Chi Shan. There were also present; Messrs. Tham Chee Kong, Leong Shui Kong, Leong Poi Chee, Low Chee Pak, Low Chin Ting, Loo Koon Ting, Chun Hew Wan, Chieng Chee Kong, Chow Kum Wing, Yung Leong, Chow Dart Tong, Ho Kum Tong, Low Wan Chew, Kan Tiu Hing, Chun Hung, Chun Tuen Cho, Wong Tuck Choon, Lo Cheung Shin, Cheun Hin Yuen, Tang Lau Kuk, Kwan Kai, and others.

Mr. Li Sing had forwarded the following letter in Mr. Whitehead:—"I sincerely and greatly regret that severe indisposition prevents my being present this forenoon at the City Hall, as I fully intended to be, to have the privilege of presenting to you an address from the Chinese merchants and community of Hongkong. My son, who knows English, will do so on my behalf and he will read the remarks I proposed to have made. I hope to see you before you depart on your well-earned leave of absence."

On behalf of his father Li Pak read the following address—Sir, I am here, on behalf of a very large number of my fellow countrymen, resident in this Colony, to present you with an address, on the eve of your departure from this Colony for what we hope may be but a temporary absence. In this address, to which I am a party, and in which I most cordially concur, we have endeavoured, however imperfectly, to give expression to our feelings of respect and admiration for you, and to our very grateful thanks, for all you have done for us during the years that have elapsed since last we had the honour of interviewing you. I am one of the oldest Chinese residents in the colony, and I bear my testimony without hesitation to the fact that, whether as Banker, or as Member of Council, no man in my time has done better work for, or more thoroughly earned the gratitude and thanks of, the Chinese Community, than have you, Sir. I have been highly honoured in being asked to be the mouthpiece of the Chinese community on this occasion. I am still more pleased to have this opportunity of expressing to you my own feelings, and my own thanks. On behalf of the signatories of the address, I most respectfully beg of you to accept it and with it our humble offering of plate and an embroidered scroll.

Mr. Ho Fook read the address as follows:—To the Honourable Thomas Henderson Whitehead, Manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and Member of the Legislative Council of Hongkong.

Sir—Six years ago when you were about to proceed on a visit to Europe, the Chinese Merchants of Hongkong presented you with a Service of Plate and with a Public Address in which they have endeavoured to acknowledge your many public services and to give expression to their feelings of gratitude for all that you had done to promote the best interests of the colony and of all classes of the residents during your tenure of office as an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council since 1890.

In the time which has elapsed since that presentation you have continued to serve the Colony faithfully and loyally, and you have deserved well of your fellow citizens. Now that you are about to leave us, though only for a brief period, we again desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity to place on record our high appreciation and grateful acknowledgments of the important and most valuable services which you have rendered Hongkong and the Chinese since 1894, both in the Legislative Council and out of the Council by your letters and by your speeches, as also for your unwearying efforts in face of grave discouragements to secure for us that consideration in respect of local self-government to which our numbers, wealth and enterprise justly entitle us.

We deeply regret that your strenuous endeavours, during your sojourn in Europe in 1894 to obtain for the Colony a full and fair measure of Municipal Government were not productive of more substantial change in the organisation of the Councils, or in the methods of administration. A permanent majority of Official Members in the Legislative Council still renders it impossible for the opinions and the wishes of the inhabitants to have influence in shaping the laws of the Colony and in regulating its finances, which their knowledge, their experience, and the extent of their material interests give them a fair claim to possess. It is true that certain alterations have been effected and that the Chinese Community have now two Representatives on the Legislative Council in lieu of one. For the improvement in the composition of the Councils, Legislative and Executive, such as it is, we feel deeply indebted to you, for if you had not, in season and out of season, here and in England, advocated the cause of progress, even the slender measure of reform meted out would not have been conceded.

We further specially desire to express to you our appreciation of your readiness at all times to safeguard our interests; for your courtesy and patience in listening to us, in investigating our complaints, and in making yourself acquainted with the facts, so as to arrive at a complete understanding of our grievances; for your candour of speech if you thought us mistaken, and for your courage in advocating our cause when you believed it to be well-founded, however adverse the Government, or however unwilling your colleagues may have been to lend you their support. We do not forget what the Master said of U—"When good government prevailed he was like an arrow (straight and decided); when bad government prevailed he was like an arrow (straight and decided)."

Your most able Report on the condition of the Tung Wah Hospital in 1898, and your recommendations for its improvement and re-organization were far more exhaustive and far more searching than any other, and, consciously or unconsciously, the reform of that Hospital has in fact been carried out by the Government and by the Managers on the lines you recommended. To your inflexibility and insistence in pressing on the Legislative Council and on the Government, year in, year out, the urgent necessity for the re-organization of the Sanitary Board, it is mainly due that a fresh lease of life has been given to that most useful Institution, and that it has ceased to be a purely official organisation.

The failure of the attempts of the local officials to hamper the trade of the port by excessive Light Dues on the shipping is also, in the main, attributable to your perseverance and tenacity of purpose.

All classes of the Chinese feel deeply indebted for your attitude and protests against the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the summoning of Chinese before the Registrar General," which gives unlimited power for the examination in secret of Chinese from the New Territory. You more fully represented their views, their opinions, and their wants than did others who purported to speak for them and we hope your appeal on the subject to The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, will be as successful as it deserves to be.

In connection with the Opium Ordinances, the proposed Arms and Ammunition Ordinances; the Extraordinary Legislation for the New Territories; the "Lee Hing Monopoly," your protest with reference to the Estimates for Public Works Extraordinary during 1900 and many other measures, great and small, you have done immense good, and by your constant questions, your firmness, and sturdy opposition to all that was one-sided and unfair to any one class of the Community, or which threatened to interfere with the freedom of the port and with the prosperity of trade, you have merited for all time our heartfelt gratitude.

We make bold to say that you are better acquainted with our real requirements than many of those whose knowledge of our language and whose official status place them in a superior position for acquiring such information. We set a high value on your independent and skilful endeavours to promote good government in the Colony, as well as on your unwavering advocacy of right methods in respect of general questions.

Your actions have been founded on knowledge and have been based upon common sense. Confucius must have had in his mind such a man as you when he wrote:—"The superior man is correctly firm and not firm merely."

Being the elected Representative of the General Chamber of Commerce in the Legislative Council, you represent the commercial interests of every nationality in Hongkong. Of these interests the Chinese hold the principal share, and so we, not unnaturally, look to you, with your untiring industry and wide experience of business and of public affairs, to use your best endeavours, while in England, on behalf of Hongkong, more especially at the Colonial Office, with Members of the Imperial Parliament, and at the meeting in June next in London of the Fourth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire to which you have been appointed a Delegate. We sincerely trust you will continue to exercise your influence in support of Free Trade and of the ever increasing commerce of this growing British Colony, upon which so largely depends the welfare, the good and the happiness of your many Chinese friends. We shall reckon each day as two days until you return to the Colony, with and we fervently hope, a fresh store of health, vigour, energy, to continue in the position of Manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, which you have so ably represented since 1883, and to again take up your duties on the Legislative Council and in the Chamber of Commerce.

We earnestly wish you a safe journey through Siberia to Europe, and an enjoyable reunion with your family and friends. We pray, honoured Sir, that you will speedily return to us in safety and resume your residence among us. With the greatest sincerity and as a testimony of the high esteem we have for you we respectfully beg you to accept of this Address the accompanying Embroidered Silk Scroll, and an Allegorical Piece of Plate (which will be delivered to you on your arrival in England by the Gold and Silversmiths Company, Limited) as a small testimony of our good will and friendship and as a token of our gratitude for your eminently meritorious public services.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, in acknowledging the presentation, said—Gentlemen, friends, and Mr. Li Pak, I am extremely sorry that your father, Mr. Li Pak, is not here to-day. Mr. Li Sing is one of my oldest friends in Hongkong. He is the head of the Li Hing Hong and Yik Loong Bank, and I have known him now for close upon twenty years. The lamented and highly esteemed Poong Pong, the head of the Wai Sing Hong and the head of the Min Tuck Bank and he pulled together for many years, and I watched with the very closest and greatest interest their noble efforts on behalf of the trade and commerce of Hongkong. They were pillars of this Colony in every sense of the word. (Applause.) I am especially sorry that it is on account of indisposition that Mr. Li Sing is not here to-day, because it would have afforded me still greater gratification to have received from his own hands this exquisite embroidered silk scroll and the address which has just been read by Mr. Ho Fook My heart is filled with feelings of gratitude, so much so that it is no easy matter to adequately reply to the Address you have honoured me with or to find words to suitably express my appreciation of the chivalrous spirit which has prompted your too great kindness. When asked some weeks ago in regard to an Address, I did not hesitate to express the earnest desire to be allowed to leave on my proposed trip to Europe without display of any kind. This was natural, because in respect of my humble endeavours to further the interests of all classes of the community and in trying to work for the public good, I felt that I had not done more than my duty, certainly not anything more than electors, who reposed their trust in me, had a right to expect. Such a feeling is, I think, duty's best reward. In 1894 the Chinese Merchants of Hongkong were in my opinion too generous, and this further manifestation of good will embarrasses me. Still it is a source of the greatest gratification to be again assured that I continue to merit your approbation. Your action has the effect of causing me to more clearly realise that my responsibilities henceforward are very largely augmented. Nevertheless, with your support, I

shall zealously exert myself and will fearlessly strive to be equal to the occasion. Your words of recognition are highly valued and will prove a strong incentive to a life of usefulness. In respect of public questions let me state that any little success achieved is not due entirely to my efforts but to the invaluable assistance extended to me by Chinese and other friends. Though the progress this important and progressive Colony has already made is remarkable, I firmly believe that Hongkong is only in its infancy and that with your co-operation its future must be great and prosperous—perhaps more so than the most sanguine expect. I live in hopes that one day, which may not be far distant, we will obtain the reward of our labours and that some substantial measure of popular municipal government will be conceded to us. The opposition of the "permanent official" and the "so called" reasons through which we have been denied our reasonable aspirations and rights are so well known that I need not dwell upon them here. The deplorable and disastrous war now pending in South Africa must entail a complete reorganization of Britain's Colonial policy and a more adequate recognition of the value of even Crown Colonies, notwithstanding their system of government, which, in view of the completely changing conditions of the times and things generally, has grown inapplicable and antiquated.

Permit me to sincerely thank you for the courteous reference to the Bank with which I have had the honour to be so long connected. Out of 26 years' residence in India, Japan, and China I have lived very happily two-thirds of that time amongst you. My deep affection for Hongkong is natural, having spent many of the best years of my life in the Colony. The relations which have existed between the Chinese and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China have ever been most cordial. Six years ago when we met in this hall it was gratifying to me to be able to bear conclusive testimony to the commercial solidity and financial soundness of the Chinese Merchant and Banker. I feel rejoiced that I can do so again and can affirm that during my sixteen years' management here, though the Bank's transactions with Chinese have aggregated many hundreds of millions of dollars, the Bank has not sustained any loss through its Chinese constituents. I may be allowed to add that there is no people I would sooner trust than the Chinese and none that I hold in higher esteem. Let me sincerely wish each one of you, my friends, a long life of many happy days, health and increasing prosperity. I shall be glad to return to those deservedly well-loved shores and to be back amongst you toward the end of the year, stimulated by the words of your address as well as with the desire to enjoy for a further period the bracing effects to be derived from the noble game of Polo "the King of games"—and an exercise which yields a far better tonic than the most eminent medico can prescribe. *Mens sana in corpore sano* is an old proverb, but I believe that for the preservation of the *mens sana* the *corpus sanum* is absolutely essential.

I offer you my heartfelt thanks for all your kindness, for the exquisitely embroidered silk Scroll, and for the allegorical piece of silver plate (Confucius holding an arrow in his hand, inscribed with his words "The superior man is correctly firm and not firm merely"), which will be treasured unto the end of my life. In the truest sense of the words I sincerely wish you all a temporary farewell and I shall long retain the most pleasant recollections of your generous kindness. (Applause.)

Three cheers were then given for Mr. Whitehead, and, in reply, Mr. Whitehead said—I think you most heartily again and I wish you all again every prosperity and good health.

A rather serious gunpowder accident is reported to have taken place on the 3rd inst. on board a sailing vessel engaged in patrol work at Woosung. It appears that a large quantity of powder was stored in her lower deck, and with an utter disregard for their safety several of the crew had been smoking near. As might have been expected a serious explosion was the result. Six of the crew were badly burned and were conveyed by train to Shanghai, where they were placed under treatment in the Shantung Road Hospital.

SAD DISCOVERY IN A HONGKONG HOTEL.

SUPPOSED CASE OF SUICIDE.

A sad case of supposed suicide was reported to the police on the 6th inst. For the last three or four months Mr. S. B. Terry, C. E., has been occupying No. 16 room at Connaught House Hotel. He came to the colony about six months ago from the Straits, having been in the employ of the Raub Gold Mining Company there. On coming to Hongkong he joined Messrs. Leigh and Orange, architects, but had left them on securing an appointment with the Punjom Mining Company. He should have left for his new situation in the steamer *Lightning* yesterday.

Though Mr. Terry had not been well for some days and had been attended by Dr. Jordan, there was apparently nothing serious the matter with him. He seemed better on Thursday and went out about three o'clock in the afternoon, returning alone between five and six o'clock in the evening. He asked for his dinner and his boy took it to his room at about half-past seven. He rang the bell at about half-past eleven and asked for a ginger-ale, which his boy obtained for him. Nothing more appears to have been heard of him until a quarter to seven yesterday morning. His boy had taken him up a cup of tea as usual, and, having placed it on the table, turned round to awaken his master, who was apparently sleeping on the couch alongside the table, and was horror-stricken to see that he was lying with a revolver clamped in his right hand and a large patch of clotted blood reaching from above the left ear into the couch. The boy took fright immediately and, running out of the room, informed the Hotel servants and went straight over to Kowloon, where he communicated with the friends of the deceased.

Information was conveyed to the police, and the body was removed to the mortuary, where an examination was made by Dr. Rennie. It appears that the bullet entered just above the right eye and came out above the left ear, and there is no reason to doubt that the injury was self-inflicted, though, as far as we are aware, there was no motive for the deceased laying violent hands upon himself. The inquest will be held next Tuesday afternoon.

RUSSIA AND COREA.

The following remarks of *The Kobe Chronicle* bear out what we said in our leading article on Wednesday about the probability of Russia's latest move forcing Japan to recognize that there is no question of trifling incidents.

"It is evident," says *The Kobe Chronicle*, "that the country is gradually being roused to a condition of considerable excitement regarding Russian policy in Korea. A Tokyo dispatch to an Osaka journal declares that the movements of the Russian warships in Korean waters during the past few days require the close attention of the Japanese nation, seeing that alarming news is being continually received by certain authorities in Tokyo. It is beyond question, the despatch declares, that the object of the movements of the Russian vessels is to obtain a naval station between Vladivostok and Port Arthur in order to protect the line of communication between the two places. The despatch goes on to declare that the Russian Government has failed both by diplomacy and by a demonstration to attain a lease of Massampo. Russia, therefore, having now come to the conclusion that it is impossible for her to attain her object by peaceful means, it would appear that she has decided to forcibly occupy that part of the Korean territory suited for the purpose. It is even reported that the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Asiatic Squadron is in receipt of instructions from St. Petersburg permitting him to occupy a port, and he is said to have decided to do so. The despatch goes on to say that it is specially significant at the present juncture that a British subject should have obtained a concession to work the Inzan gold mine, which, it is thought, may have been granted because of direct or indirect Russian assistance. Russia desiring to placate Great Britain before the move she contemplates actually takes place. However that may be, diplomats who are on the alert expect every moment the

receipt of news that the Russian Squadron has occupied a port in Corea."

Our contemporary goes on to point out that if Russia takes such action, it will be a direct defiance to both Great Britain and Japan, and also a breach of Conventions with both Powers (the Russian declaration after the evacuation of Port Hamilton by Great Britain 15 years ago is in itself a sufficient obstacle), and concludes: "Great Britain is engaged elsewhere, but her fleet is practically free, while it is not likely that Japan would allow the gauntlet thus thrown down to remain unnoticed. We do not think it probable that Russia will go to work in this way."

AVENGING THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION MURDERS.

From a letter written to *The Rangoon Gazette* from the camp of the Boundary Commission at Kinmu we get some details of the punishment inflicted on the Was for the murder of the two Boundary Commissioners at Mong Tun. It appears that the Chinese General Liu requested British assistance in administering this punishment, and the Reserve Escort was sent up, but could not arrive till the 24th February. The majority of the "Wild Was" disclaimed any connection with the murder and asserted that the Mong Tun Was had only been instructed to block the roads leading to the hills. The unavoidable delay of the Escort was unfortunate, for as the writer in *The Gazette* says:—"The presence of this small race of savages on our borders, in their present defiant attitude, is as unbearable as it is unnecessary. It is moreover a direct encouragement to similar races now within our frontiers and temporarily moderately quiet to resist authority should circumstances at any time lead them to conceive a hope that such resistance might be successful."

The Was attempted without success to treat with the Chinese. On the 26th February the Chinese drove them from a stockade, and later in the day a party of Durhams and Military Police burnt other strongholds and killed seven or more Was. On the 27th four villages were burnt by the British and Chinese forces, after the latter had got into difficulties through ammunition running short and had been rescued by our forces. "Of the four villages burnt," says the correspondent, "two were situated astride of the Salween-Mekong watershed, being thus partly in Chinese and partly in British territory. From this fact it would seem that a watershed in a country inhabited by hill-folk is not the best feature to select for a frontier." The Chinese burnt some more villages the same day. It was estimated that the total losses of the Was during the two days were between 50 and 60 killed, and many must have been wounded. Upwards of 2,000 houses were burnt together with a good deal of property. One Ghurka of the British force was killed, and four Chinese. The correspondent states that "if the behaviour of the Was met with may be taken as a criterion of Wa fighting power in general, it is evident that the subjugation of the entire tract will be a matter involving no great loss to us." He adds that "further trouble with the Was is not anticipated, as we shall very shortly be moving in country where Chinese control is said to be more effective than it is about here."

The writer says, in anticipation of any surprise which might be expressed at the fact that the Boundary Commission "fought the battles of the Chinese":—"No other course was open to us. We, as has been said before, were begged by General Liu to co-operate with him. The Chinese were in a situation in Mong Tun that they would have got out of indifferently well without our help. Had not a certain measure of punishment been meted out to the Was around Mong Tun, the rest would have been emboldened without doubt. We had no reason to suppose that adequate redress for the cold-blooded murder of our two brother-officers would or could have been attained by the Chinese without our aid." Moreover, he shows in the course of his narrative that Chinese troops fought pluckily enough, though their want of discipline rendered successive co-operation almost impossible.

The "freshets" in the Canton River are reported to be very strong.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST APRIL.

LEVEL.	
1899	1900
Tytam 5 ft. 5 in. below overflow 53 ft. 8 in. below overflow	
Pokfulam 37 ft. 7 in. below overflow 13 ft. 4 in. below overflow	
Wongneicheong 3 ft. 1 in. below overflow	

STORAGE GALLONS.	
1899	1900
Tytam 82,850,000	74,791,000
Pokfulam 1,350,000	37,320,000
Wongneicheong ...	1,176,000

Total	84,200,000	113,287,000
-------------	------------	-------------

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH.

1899		1900
Consumption ...	95,992,000	98,183,000 gals.
Estimated population	199,500	205,000

Consumption per head per day ...	15.5	15.45 gals
----------------------------------	------	------------

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH.

1899		1900
Consumption ...	5,714,000	6,201,000 gals.
Estimated population	26,700	27,900

Consumption per head per day ...	6.8	7.17 gals.
----------------------------------	-----	------------

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

R. D. ORMSBY,
Water Authority.

ALICE MEMORIAL AND NETHERSOLE HOSPITALS.

ANNUAL MEETING.

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals was held in the Alice Memorial Hospital on Friday, the 6th inst. In the absence of the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Chairman of the Committee, it was proposed that the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai should preside. The others present were: Mr. A. Mackenzie, Hon. Treasurer; Rev. H. R. Wells, Mr. Wong Shing, and Dr. M. Gibson, Secretary.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, Mr. Mackenzie presented the balance sheet for the year and drew attention to several items in the accounts. He said it was rather disappointing to find a falling off both in the European and Chinese subscriptions, the total subscriptions being \$410.46 less than last year, while the working expenses were increased. He pointed out that the large balance this year was due to the receipt of the Young and Sharp bequests and that had these not been received the balance would have been much reduced on that of the previous year. The Bellios Medicine Fund had been invested in steamboat shares which are giving good interest. The question of how to meet the call of the Land Investment Co. on the shares held by the Hospitals would require the consideration of the committee at an early date. He expressed the thanks of the committee for the balance of the Young bequest of \$2,099.49 and the Sharp bequest of \$500. The Treasurer's report was then adopted.

The superintendent (Dr. R. M. Gibson) laid the report of the Hospitals on the table, and expressed regret that he had been compelled to be absent through ill health for a portion of the year.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart was re-elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Mackenzie as Treasurer, Mr. David Wood as auditor and Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, who had helped by collecting subscriptions for the Chinese community. The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai was thanked for presiding.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Tsoi Tse Mei	\$25
A Patient	20
Li Tuk Yung	10
Ho Shun Chuen	20

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited, Messrs. Lütgens, Eihstmann & Co., have received the following report from the mine, written by Mr. Thomas Waters, dated 3rd March:—

During the past fortnight the contractors in the north level at the Great Eastern Main Shaft have advanced the bottom level a further distance of 19 feet 6 inches, making a total of 128 ft. 6 inches from the crosscut, the reef in the present face measures two feet in thickness, and the last three feet driven has shown a little improvement in the quality of the stone, and judging from the samples taken the quartz should yield fully 5 dwts. to the ton. I am saving the stone for battery treatment. On the 2nd of March the air became so bad in the Great Eastern bottom level north that the contractors had to stop work. And we are at present fixing a blower or fan at the bottom of the shaft to carry fresh air into the face, to drive the foul air out. I expect the Contractors to start driving on again or about the 9th of March.

CALEDONIAN MAIN SHAFT.

A chamber 11 feet by 6 has been cut out, and we are at present fixing the frame, or opening out-set, in position, and timbering the straight shaft to the bottom of the well hole, which will be completed about the 9th; when we will fix the guides, and get the cage working in the shaft as soon as possible. The water in this shaft is very heavy at present, which has retarded our progress whilst outfitting out the chamber, but I expect the water to ease considerably when the surrounding country gets exhausted.

I have stopped the tunnel on the Great Eastern lease for the present, the miners being now employed timbering the Caledonian Main Shaft. The contractors at the Caledonian Main Shaft started to work on the 26th February, and advanced the bottom level north eight feet six inches, making the present face, twenty one feet from the cross out. The reef has opened out to two feet in thickness, but the quality of the quartz is too poor to put through the battery. The contractors have advanced the south level five feet, total from the crosscut five feet. On the 1st of March a small vein was cut in this level, worth about 6 dwts. to the ton.

Since writing the above we have been fortunate enough to strike a chute of stone in the Caledonian Underlie Shaft, and judging from several samples taken, I feel confident when the stone is put through the battery it will yield 10 dwts. to the ton. I expect to have the battery started on a trial crushing of stone raised from this point in about four weeks.

On the 6th of March the quartz in the bottom level north at the Caledonian Main Shaft improved considerably in quality, showing gold, fairly coarse, in the prospecting dish, and judging from samples taken out of the face, the stone should yield fully 6 dwts. to the ton, the reef now being three feet in thickness. I will be able to judge the value of this chute of stone better after a few more feet of driving has been done.

Things generally are on the improve, and I feel very sanguine that we are on the track to get payable gold in quantity.

The *Pioneer*, the new steamer for the Upper Yangtse, was launched at the Oriental Dock, Shanghai, on the 3rd inst. A large party was invited to watch the launch and the christening was performed by Mrs. Archibald Little. The *Pioneer* was built by Messrs. Denny & Co., of Dumbarton, sent out in pieces, and put together at the Oriental Dock. Her first trip up the Yangtse is timed for 1st May.

Cochin-China, like most European colonies in the Far East, is complaining of the rise in the cost of living and is looking forward with fear to the future. M. Gaston Lerichs, in the *Mekong*, puts down the dearness of living partly to the fact that the Asiatic population in the colony is stationary, making the production of the country also stationary, and says:—"When we treat the Chinese as men, and not as beasts of burden, they will flock into the colony in hundreds of thousands and the produce of the soil will soon be increased a hundred-fold."

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fourth ordinary annual general meeting, to be held at the Registered Offices of the Company, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, on Wednesday, the 18th of April, 1900, at noon.

Gentlemen.—We beg to lay before you the report and statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1899, from which you will see that the balance at debit of Working Account at the beginning of the year of \$40,671.41 has been almost wiped off, and there now only remains an amount of \$4,133.92 at debit.

THE EUREKA MAIN SHAFT.

Driving has been extensively carried on both north and south during the year, and a large quantity of good ore has been met with, principally in the 150 feet, 200 feet and the intermediate south levels. In conjunction with Queen Mines, Limited, an air compressing plant for the use of rock-drills was erected, and commenced running on the 21st August last. This has enabled us to get through a much larger amount of work than before; a total distance of 1,382 feet having been driven in 1899, as against 539 feet on 1898, besides stopping and rising.

"B" SHAFT.

The lode channel was intersected in the cross-out in March last, 86 feet east of the shaft, but proved disappointing, and the expenses of working being very high, it has been discontinued for the present.

The Battery has been in full work throughout the year, and is in fair order.

Water supply has proved sufficient for all our needs, and at the end of the year we had a six months' supply in hand.

During the year 6,506 tons of ore have been milled, realizing 4,535 ozs. 13 dwts. of smelted gold value \$171,482.86.

For your further information we append a report by the manager on the year's work.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. H. Potts, who offers himself for re-election.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account—			
15,000 A shares at \$5	\$75,000.00		
45,000 B shares at \$4.50	202,500		
Less unpaid calls on 165 shares at \$1=	165		
	202,335.00		
Accounts payable	277,335.00		
	3,189.61		
	\$280,524.61		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cost of Olivers property	50,000.00		
Cost of Eureka mine	35,000.00		
	\$85,000.00		
Eureka main shaft	32,397.04		
Gold lots 105 and 308	4,279.19		
Works, buildings and fixed plant	35,734.32		
2/3rds cost of air compressing plant	14,072.54		
New plant	1,229.10		
Development—			
Balance brought forward	14,666.00		
Expended during year	30,154.32		
	\$44,820.32		
Less amount realized by sale of forfeited shares written off	940.50		
	43,879.82		
Live stock	\$ 733.76		
Stores on hand and stock of fuel at			
Battery	3,767.53		
Movable plant	4,675.49		
	9,176.77		
Cash in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	\$14,023.53		
Cash in Union Bank of Australia, Sydney	10,601.53		
Cash in hand	77.05		
Cash at call	23,993.20		
	48,695.31		
Accounts receivable	1,926.40		
Balance at debit of working account	4,133.92		
	\$280,524.61		

WORKING ACCOUNT.

1st Jan, 1899. Dr.		\$	c.
To balance brought forward		40,671.41	
31st Dec.			
To cost of mining, transport to mill and milling	120,724.90		
To assaying	1,100.90		
To general charges in Australia	1,268.80		
To travelling expenses and telegrams	1,380.84		
To application fees and rent of gold leases	1,117.92		
To Australian management and salaries	6,243.2		
To General Managers' and auditor's fees	3,100.00		
To office charges	294.73		
To exchange	597.99		
	\$176,575.19		
31st Dec., 1899. Cr.		\$	c.
By gold account, proceeds of gold won	171,482.86		
By rent of outcrops	343.91		
By interest	578.50		
By transfer fees	36.00		
By balance—			
Store of ore on hand at mine and mill 21 tons at 5s.—£26 5s. 0d.—	\$268.06		
Difference	\$3,865.84		
	4,133.92		
	\$176,575.19		

THE YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the tenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Association, No. 26, the Bund, Shanghai, on Thursday, the 19th April, 1900, at 4 o'clock p.m. precisely.

The Board of Directors have now the pleasure to submit to the shareholders the annual report and audited statement of accounts and balance sheet to the 30th December, 1899.

WORKING ACCOUNT 1898, AND FORMER YEARS.

This account shows a credit balance of \$163,121.92 against \$122,600.86 on the 31st December, 1898. The directors recommend the payment of a dividend to shareholders of 20 per cent. out of this account. The account will then stand as follows:—

Dividend of 20 per cent. (= \$12 per share)	\$ 96,000.00
Balance to be carried forward	67,121.92
	\$163,121.92

The dividend will be paid in Taels at exchange 74. \$12 (a) Exc. 74=Taels 8.88 per share.

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1899.

The net premia earned during 1899, after deducting return premia, re-insurance premia, etc., amount to \$7,463.99, against \$595,941.90 during 1898, and the account shows a balance at credit of \$434,472.45 on the 30th December last. The directors recommend transferring \$34,000.00 to the credit of reserve fund. The account will then stand as follows:—

To Reserved Fund	\$ 34,000.00
Balance to be carried forward	400,472.45
	\$434,472.45

In addition to the claims and losses paid during the year, which amount to \$271,053.89 (equal to 38.47 per cent. of the net premia), there are claims pending on known losses and casualties which are estimated at about \$160,000.

EXCHANGE AND INVESTMENT FLUCTUATION ACCOUNT.

Owing principally to the depreciation at the end of 1899 of all the association's sterling investments, this account has been reduced by \$16,768.13 and now amounts to \$42,669.68.

Sterling exchange has been taken at 2s. 8½d. per tael (the demand rate on 30th December, 1899), and the relative value between dollars and taels at 73.

INVESTMENTS.

The value on 30th December last has been taken for all the Association's investments.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with the Articles of Association the present directors all retire from office, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Augustus White, who offers himself for re-election.

By order of the Board of Directors,
W. S. JACKSON,
Secretary.

WORKING ACCOUNT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDING 30th DECEMBER, 1899.

Dr.		\$	c.
To net premia, less re-insurances, &c.	704,631.99		
To interest account	79,528.08		
To transfer fees account	36.00		
To profit on sales of securities	85,653.37		
	\$819,853.44		
Cr.		\$	c.
By claims paid, less re-insurances, &c.	271,053.89		
By agency commissions	3,330.47		
By head office and general charges	30,882.75		
By London charges	22,808.49		
By Hongkong charges	4,289.39		
By agency charges	11,688.82		
By directors', auditor's, and committee's fees	5,431.74		
By exchange account	3,900.44		
By balance	434,472.45		
	\$819,853.44		

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1898, AND FORMER YEARS.

Dr.		\$	c.
To balance of working account, 1898, from last account	275,918.85		
To balance of working account, former years, from last account	122,600.86		
	\$398,519.71		
Cr.		\$	c.
By net claims, re-insurance premia, and premia returned, &c., account 1898	170,424.40		
By dividend—Former years account—\$6 per share on 8,000 shares	48,000.00		
By net claims, and all payments account former years	15,973.39		
By balance	163,121.92		
	\$398,519.71		

BALANCE SHEET ON 30th DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital—8,000 shares of \$100 each upon which the sum of \$80 per share has been called and paid up	480,000.00		
Reserve fund	510,000.00		
Exchange and investment fluctuation account	42,669.68		
Working account, 1899	434,472.45		
Working account, 1898, and former years	163,121.92		
Uncollected dividends and bonus	3,444.11		
	\$1,639,708.16		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Midland Railway Company, consolidated 2½ per cent. perpetual preference stock £6,540 8s.	66,162.11		
Great Northern Railway Co., consolidated 4 per cent. perpetual preference stock £2,032 0s.	20,560.59		
London and North Western Railway Co., consolidated 4 per cent. preference stock £3,425	34,647.00		
Great Western Railway Co., 4 per cent. debenture stock £1,700	17,197.05		
Great Western Railway Co., 4½ per cent. debenture stock £2,860	28,931.51		
India 3½ per cent. stock 1,931 £2,010 14s	20,341.05		
Mortgages on real estate at Shanghai	336,986.30		
Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1886 cash at bankers on fixed deposit	342,465.75		
Cash at bankers on current account	200,574.00		
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, 6 per cent. debentures of 1890	34,931.51		
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, 6 per cent. debentures of 1894	34,931.51		
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, 5 per cent. debentures of 1896	11,095.59		
Shanghai Municipal 5 per cent. debentures of 1902	23,547.95		
Shanghai Municipal 5 per cent. debentures of 1905	6,780.82		
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Co. 6 per cent. debentures	82,438.36		
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited, 5 per cent. debentures of 1906	27,739.73		
Shanghai Gas Co. 6 per cent. debentures 1899	13,972.60		
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co., Limited, shares	6,506.83		
S. C. Farham & Co., Limited, shares	26,801.37		
Boyd & Co., Limited, shares	7,191.73		
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, shares	2,350.00		
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., Limited, shares	7,191.73		
North China Insurance Co., Limited, shares	2,350.00		
Policy stamps at agencies	523.82		
Head office and London furniture	3,061.98		
Due by agencies, premia in course of collection, and sundry outstandings	201,241.86		
	\$1,639,708.16		

The Ceylon Observer understands that Mr. Chamberlain will not fill up the Straits Governorship until June, that Sir Alexander Swettenham will continue to act until then, and that he is considered to have a strong chance of being confirmed in the appointment, instead of going to Fiji.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

NURSES' MEMORIAL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "WEEKLY PRESS,"
Hongkong, 9th April, 1900.

Sir.—On behalf of the Committee of the above fund I shall be grateful if you will kindly insert in your paper a statement of accounts as enclosed.

It is now so long since this fund was started to commemorate the two nurses at the Government Civil Hospital who lost their lives in the discharge of their duties during the epidemic of plague in 1898, that some explanation of the delay in closing the account is due to those who subscribed towards the fund.

It may be remembered that after erecting monuments at the graves in the cemetery it was decided to put a coloured glass window in St. John's Cathedral. The design for this had to be prepared at home and submitted here; then the work had to be executed, sent out and erected. Subsequently it was found that the expenditure had been considerably in defect of the amount subscribed, and it was decided by the Committee to purchase with the balance some useful memorial to be placed in the Sisters' Quarters at the Hospital. Consequently, and after consultation with the matron, we purchased through the kindness of Messrs. W. G. Humphreys & Co. a handsome clock and a large case of plate and cutlery. These were especially ordered and engraved at home and are now in use at the Quarters, where they will be shown to any subscriber who wishes to see them. Miss Barker writes to the Committee that the memorial is very highly appreciated by the Sisters, both in memory of their deceased fellow-workers and also of the kindness of the community. The small balance remaining has been spent in adding a few books to the Sisters' Library.

The inscription on the clock and on the larger pieces of plate is:—

"In Memory of Elizabeth Frances Higgin (Sister Frances) and Emma Gertrude Ireland (Sister Gertrude) who died of plague contracted while on duty at the Government Civil Hospital, 1898. Presented to the Sisters' Mess by the Community of Hongkong."

And every piece of plate and cutlery is engraved "S. Q."

Mr. C. S. Sharp has kindly audited the accounts.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,
R. F. CUBBOLD.

THE NURSES' MEMORIAL FUND.
IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

Dr.	\$	c.
To T. Jackson (sundries)	10.00	
To Palmer and Turner (widow)	1,009.1	
To Ah Sing (fixing same)	10.00	
To Brown, Jones & Co. (monuments)	560.32	
To W. G. Humphreys & Co. (clock and plate)	883.75	
To Ah Ping (stand for plate chest)	22.00	
To Falconer (repairs to clock)	4.00	
To balance	105.5	
	\$2,606.23	

Cr.	\$	c.
By subscriptions	2,546.09	
By interest	60.23	
	\$2,606.23	

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

C. S. SHARP.

The following telegram, headed Bucyrus, O. 1st April, seems "rather sudden".—James Dedrick, a Californian, who has just returned from China, is here arranging for the purchase of a number of ten-ton steel wagons and traction engines to draw them. He will establish a service across the desert in China, and will enter active competition for the carrying trade, which is now done by camels. He says the camels can carry only about 600 pounds each and make only twenty miles a day, while his wagons will carry ten tons each and make sixty miles. He has been over the ground thoroughly, and he expects to have fifty engines and 300 wagons actively engaged within a year. The first consignment will be shipped immediately.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 27th March 1900.

REPORTED DISTURBANCES.

We have been much disturbed by exciting telegrams from Shanghai and the South urging us to wire details of Northern events. Until to-night our ignorance of the occasion of such telegrams has been absolute. We have, however, just heard from Peking an item of news which may give the clue, viz., that an action has taken place between the 'Boxers' and Imperial troops at Jen-chiew (P), a township lying about sixty miles S.S.W. of Tientsin, to the west of the Grand Canal. All that is known is that "losses were severe," but neither the issue nor the details are to hand.

If the site of the disturbance be Jen-chiew, we shall of course soon have verbal accounts from the combatants. No anxiety is at present felt in Tientsin on the subject. For some time past the Viceroy, at the instigation of the Consuls, has been taking measures to deal with the I Ho-chüan and this is probably the first-fruits of his energy.

OFFICIAL SANCTION TO PUBLIC OPPOSITION.

The Peking authorities have been sedulously and deliberately inattentive to all the representations of the Ministers on this matter. The reason is not far to seek. Yü Hsien, late governor of Shantung and present governor of Shanxi, emphatically assured the Dowager that the "Boxers" and "Big-swords" were patriots who ought to be encouraged. This man considers that Yuan-shih-kai, now promoted from acting to *de facto* governor of Shantung, has jockeyed him out of office, and, as Yuan's pet antipathy is the "Boxers," Li has thought it his duty to do as much for them as possible. Moreover, the said Yü is the most bigoted anti-foreign official in the Empire, and as the I Ho-chüan promise to make foreign trouble he has done his best for them.

It is no secret in Northern official circles that this man is going to Shansi for the same purpose of hindering the working of the mining and railway concessions given to foreigners and especially those granted to the Peking Syndicate (Italo-British, initiated by Signor Luzzatto). This may seem a most gratuitous and amazing statement, but I am quite sure of its truth. Yü Hsien hopes especially to defeat the opening of Mines by locally applied legal restrictions and by the stronger measures of popular (but yamen-insigated) sedition if other means fail.

THE REACTIONARY PARTY.

At present in Peking that wing of the Reactionary Party identified with Hsü Tung (the Tutor to the Heir Apparent), Jung-lu, and Kang-Ye, has everything its own way. The chief danger of its supremacy lies in the appalling ignorance of two of its chiefs. They actually last week discussed the expediency of closing the Tsung Li Yamen, not on account of the inefficiency of that amazing junta—this would have been plausibly justifiable—but on the ground that all foreign difficulty would be obviated if the hated *yung jen* had nowhere to go to when they wanted redress of grievances. Jung Lu suggested that commerce required some government department to attend to these matters, whereupon the sages said the *Li Fan Yuan* would do. This is an all but defunct obsolete and Colonial office.

Truly there is much need of Li in the North. With all his faults, he at least knew how to conduct affairs in a non-paternal spirit. I may state that Li's friends here all believe that six months will see him transferred to the Liang Kiang, *vice* Liu Kung Yi resigned, & restored to his old satrapy in Chihli. The old man's ambition is to die in his old harness.

Tientsin's trade is in full flood again, and we are informed by wire that Newchwang is opening.

LOCAL EXCITEMENTS.

We had the rare excitements of a first class fire and a real Italian opera in one week. The Tientsin Trading Company's large store was burnt out last week—the second such disaster in four years. It is understood that there is to be a searching inquiry. The opera was Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*. As our port is exceedingly rich in very extraordinary vocal

(amateur) talent just now, a really excellent representation was given. The chief honours fell to the accomplished *prima donna* who was responsible for the innovation. Frau von Hanneken.

MANILA.

Manila, 3rd April 1900.

THE MALOLOS VALLEY - 120 MILES BY RAIL.

A year ago General McArthur was fighting his way up the Malolos Valley and taking possession of the railroad as fast as a limited number of troops and the most wretched transportation would permit him. It was the transportation more than the insurrection that delayed his progress. To-day the Government is attempting to carry on the ordinary business of the valley and in addition to supply and transport, as circumstances change, an army of ten thousand soldiers. About one half the rolling stock of the Manila-Dagupan railroad was buried by the insurgents and destroyed in the numerous wrecks that have taken place all along the line. Very few miles of the one hundred and twenty that stretch from Manila Bay to the Gulf of Singayen are without the evidences of wrecks, and in many places the roadside is strewn with the debris of running gear and scrap iron from freight trucks and passenger coaches. In some portions of the side-tracks or in the ditches at the side of the roadbed, whole trains of cars are still coupled and upright but only the iron and steel parts are left, as the woodwork has long been burned away. Both sides of the road are littered with overturned coaches and nearly everyone of them has its tale of death and wounds.

The bridges have been repaired with temporary wooden structures that serve to support the trains in a rickety fashion but the whole thing is slipshod and merely an extensive patchwork. Some of the larger bridges, especially the one that crosses the great river near Bamban, will be carried away with the first heavy rain, and as two of the spans were down and the big steel pillars with them, it is a serious and difficult undertaking. In the present state of affairs the railroad might be said to be in a transition period. The United States are about to restore the road, or what is left of it, to the British owners. Agents of the company are at present inspecting and making inventory of the remaining stock. It is probable that the company will soon commence work on the most necessary repairs.

In the Philippines, brick and stone seem to burn almost as readily as wood, and many of the stations, cartsheds, engine-houses, waiting rooms and other buildings have been completely destroyed. Some of the engines that were burned in the sheds can be seen sticking up through the ruins and others are locked together in a tangle of smoke-stacks, boiler-heads and bumpers, just as they remained after the "head on" collisions. At the river near Bamban the insurgents built a siding and ran dozens of cars and several engines over the bluffs into the bed of the river. One of the engines is still standing upright, apparently on the point of its fender, out of a mass of wreckage.

Many miles of the road run through lowlands and marsh country, and in the rainy season whole districts are under water. The original high embankments put down by the Company were completely shovelled away in numerous places by the insurgents, who hoped and did succeed in delaying the American troops. At Tarlac a river changed its bed and swept away several hundred yards. These breaks were hastily filled in by the army and the track was thrown down with all speed. Naturally the result is not very substantial and when the train passes over these places, one does well to hold on to one's seat.

THE RUN TO DAGUPAN—AN AMERICAN QUICK LUNCH.

I made the trip to Dagupan last week. Two sets of trains are run—a "gugu" or native train, which leaves early in the morning and the military express, starting from Manila at nine o'clock. I took the military train and was assigned to a seat in a second-class coach and the rest of the train was made up of the hospital and way cars and the quartermaster and commissary freights.

The way is long and dusty, dirty and uncomfortable. The whole country is as dry as a bone and when the stops were made at the various stations, it was almost suffocating. Active girls and small boys were numerous and peddled about all sorts of "chow." Duck eggs, roast duck and chicken, bananas, mangos, cocoanuts, beef, water, tobacco, and a dozen other odds and ends were offered for sale. At Angeles and San Fernando are two typical "quick-lunch," American style restaurants. The stop lasts only for a few minutes and a person easily learns how the Americans can go in one door and out the other without stopping, and pick up a lunch on the way. Things are thrown at you as you enter; you grab them, sail along with the crowd and shy the price at the baseball expert behind the rough box counter. But it tastes good, for a person is so hungry and thirsty that anything is acceptable.

As a rule very few natives are to be seen except those peddling at the stations. The towns lie some distance from the railroad, and as this is not the planting or ploughing season the fields are empty except for occasional caribaos, and these seem to prefer the road-bed to the fields. We had a gay engineer on the train and he seemed to take delight in sailing them through the air into the ditch whenever he got a chance. Each little collision shook things up a bit, but we became accustomed to bumps and jerks and rather enjoyed straining out of the car windows to see what became of the caribaos.

We pulled into the ruins of the Dagupan station at six o'clock in the evening and struck off up the dusty road in a bumping ramshackle, bonebreaker of a bull cart. These are springless machines, mounted straight on wooden axles, with solid wooden wheels. The bulls are of the hump variety and trot very fast, but as the road was a rockpatch the ride was not comfortable. The native baggage-carriers preferred to run alongside with blankets and boxes.

It had been a long tedious ride of nine hours; but a pile of work had been done. Stores and supplies to the amount of several tons had been distributed along the lines, and troops were constantly being picked up and dropped. No accidents had occurred, we had not been attacked by the insurgents, and the wonder of it all was how so much was accomplished with such an assortment of dilapidated machinery as the present road.

LIMITED ROLLING STOCK CAUSES HEAVY LOSS.

People are clamouring everywhere for a service that will permit easy shipping between Manila and way stations, and in the present crippled state of the road only a small percentage of the possible carrying can be done. In spite of the insurrection there is a large amount of produce that lies waiting for cars, and when the crops are in, the loss on account of poor freight facilities will be very great. It is hoped that the managers of the road will be active in procuring the new rolling stock and making the necessary repairs.

A CORRECTION.

I feel that an injustice has been done to an agent of Messrs Smith, Bell & Co., Mr. Collingwood who was stationed at the town of Gubat. The first reports of the attack and attempted burning of Gubat were accompanied by criticisms of Mr. Collingwood, and when the native and Chinese refugees who escaped on the steamer *Juno* were cross-examined, they were apparently much disturbed, and possibly to save themselves, they concocted a story concerning Mr. Collingwood. Further investigation has put an entirely different light on the affair, and I take this first opportunity to set the matter right. British agents are scattered everywhere throughout the islands and in numerous instances they have remained at their posts during months of the insurrection, and not only have they saved their properties, but they have held the respect and confidence of the changeable Filipino.

According to the *Kobe Chronicle*, the exodus of gold from Japan still continues. In February it amounted to two and a half millions. It is estimated that the amount of gold leaving the country last month will reach three millions.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 7th April.

It was reported that the Chinese Minister in the United States, Wu Ting Fang, sent a telegram to H.E. the Viceroy, Li Hung-chang at Canton, and requested him to arrest the families of the two Los, who had subscribed to the Society got up by the reformer Kang-yu-wei. The fact was that one of the men, Lo Tung-fan, in America was receiving subscriptions for the Society, and that as it came to the knowledge of the Chinese Consul Hoyao, and Vice-Consul Sowyn, they reported it to the Chinese Minister Wu, who wired it to the Viceroy. By the order of the Viceroy the Nam-Hoi Magistrate went with soldiers to Lokak in the district of Nam Hoi, and arrested Lee Sz, wife of one Lo, and his relative Lo Pui, and brought them back to Canton. Upon a petition the Viceroy as to how this family under arrest should be dealt with, the Viceroy ordered them to be discharged with a caution, and that the yamen runners must not "squeeze" them. The other day the elders and gentry of the village went in a long procession, accompanied by banners, tablets, an embroidered state-umbrella, and musicians, to the Nam Hoi yamen, and presented to the Magistrate the state-umbrella and a tablet in praise of his virtue and upright judgment. Among the persons reported to the Viceroy as being connected with the society was a man named Tong King-cheong, alias Tong Pak, of the Yan Ping district. He was editor of the Chinese newspaper *Man Hing*, published in the United States, a strong advocate for reform, and a staunch supporter of the society. His father is now under arrest, but it is to be hoped that he will be released too.

Ever since the opening of the West river to trade large numbers of steamers have been constantly going and coming for hundreds of miles; some of light draught got on well enough; but those of heavy draught always came to grief by running against sunken rocks in shallow water. Last year the steamer *Shi Ping* was wrecked on a sunken rock somewhere in Tak-hingchow, shortly afterwards another steamer, *Po Wah*, was also wrecked in the same locality, and two weeks after a third steamer, the *Wo On*, ran against a sunken rock at the entrance to the Sin Hing river and was so disabled that the *Wo Kwai* and *Wo Ping* had to go and float her and take her in tow back to Canton, the passengers on board being very much frightened. A similar fate happened to the light-draught gunboat *Sandpiper*, and she had to be taken in tow back to Hongkong by the torpedo boat *Fame*. There is talk of a much needed survey of the river.

For a week or ten days we have had no beef in Canton on account of the strike of butchers. Those of the foreign community who required beef had to send for it from Hongkong or obtained it at a high price from Hing-kee. The other day Chea-cheong, a butcher, presented a petition to the Nam Hoi Magistrate, stating the motives for the strike as follows. He said that by permission of one of the foreign Consuls he opened two butchers stalls under the names of Sun Fuk Lee and Sun Seong Lee, in Lun Hing Street, Canton, to supply beef to the foreign merchants in Shamen and their ships from Hongkong. This business he has been carrying on from 40 to 50 years without any trouble. On the 22nd of the second moon one of the water police went with a number of persons into his shop and demanded blackmail, failing the payment of which they robbed and carried away a quantity of beef, money, &c. The Magistrate set the petition with an order to the Inspector in charge of the water police to have the man and his associates arrested and punished. The Chinese do not eat much beef. A pig, on the other hand, is everything; a feast would be deemed a poor one without a roast pig; for medicinal purpose, if a Chinese has a headache he takes the brain of a pig; if his heart suffers he eats pigs; if his legs are tired he tries leg of pork. If a bride on the third morning of her marriage does not bring back a dozen or two of roast pigs to her father it is deemed a shame and a dishonour to the family.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

Sandakan, 2nd April.

Mr. Angier, of *The London and China Express*, and Mrs. Angier, have been paying a visit to our territory. They arrived per the *Sandakan* on the 19th ult., and after a few days here, took a trip up the Kinabatangan River, as far as Koyah Estate (Borneo Tobacco Estates, Ltd.) On their return the Government chartered the local steamer *Labuan* to take them down the West Coast to see the railway so far as it has progressed. The *Labuan* arrived back with them last evening, the 1st, and I understand they return to Hongkong to-day per s.s. *Sandakan*. Their trip must have been full of novelty, and they seem to have enjoyed themselves thoroughly, and to have been pleased with the measure of hospitality extended to them.

The Chinese detective who was charged with causing the death of a coolie in the employ of the China-Borneo Co., Ltd., by rupturing his spleen, has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

On the 19th ult. a number of coolies landed ex s.s. *Mausang*, and created a disturbance at the Bahalla Coolie Depot. An extra guard was immediately sent for, the ring leaders were imprisoned, and no further trouble was experienced with the men.

The first shipment of tobacco from the Tawao (Cowie Harbour) estate was landed here on the 26th ult., and leaves for Rotterdam, via Singapore, per the first Singapore steamer. It is believed to be of very fine quality, and good price is confidently looked for.

March has been an exceedingly busy month at this port, the arrivals and departures numbering a record, viz:—Arrivals 29, and sailings 27. There is little doubt about the growing importance of the port, and, as the development has been slow, it is logical to suppose that it will be permanent. The great want of the port is now undoubtedly more wharf and godown space, and the sooner this is provided the better for the port and territory.

On the morning of the 28th ult., as the *Mausang* was approaching Sandakan from Tawao, one of the men, who was on a derrick head, lost his hold, and fell into the ship's hold, very seriously injuring his back, and it is feared the accident may prove fatal.

On the 28th inst. Ngh Teek Sing, the Government Opium and Pawnbroking Farmer, died in Sandakan at the age of 51. He was buried on the morning of the 30th, the funeral being a very imposing sight. Deceased had risen from the lowest ranks, and was esteemed by all who knew him.

H.E. Governor Clifford and Mrs. Clifford are due here this morning, per the steamer *Kelantan*.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

On Saturday, 7th inst., a second attempt was made to sail off the race for the Bonito Cup, but although the time for finishing had been extended to 7 p.m., it was found impossible to do the twelve miles in the five hours, and so once more the yachts will have to try for it. This was hard luck for the commodore, who sailed the *Iris* with great skill and patience in the light and baffling airs, and at one time seemed to have the well-earned prize at his mercy.

On Sunday, April 8th, the eleventh club race was sailed over a course round Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy to port north Fairway Buoy, mark boat off Chung-hue and Stonecutters' Island to starboard, distance 14 miles. In the first-class, all the boats were anchored on the line and all got away almost abreast. The *Maid Marian* and *Erica* as usual slipped away in the light airs, with spinnakers set most of the time, to the first mark, although in justice to the Bonito it should be stated that for some part of this run she was carrying the roof of a small match on her keel. The Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy was rounded

by Erica first, followed about a minute afterwards by the Maid Marian, then about five minutes later came Iris and the Bonito close up, with Doreen whipping in, a position which she steadily maintained for the rest of the race. On the reach to the Fairway Buoy Bonito passed Iris, only to be again passed by her on the run to the Chang-hue mark, whom both these yachts seemed to have closed up a little on the two leaders, while the Maid Marian had gained on Erica, there being only 15 secs. between them at the markboat, Iris about 3½ min. behind them and Bonito a minute later. It was almost a close haul from this to fetch the cutter's and it could easily be seen by the junks that once inside the Island it would be a dead thrash to windward; nevertheless, Erica, on rounding the markboat, attempted to carry her spinnaker, with the result that the Maid Marian passed her at once. The wind now freshened a little and a very pretty bit of sailing took place inside Stone-cutter's, the Bonito slowly but surely closing on the leaders and crossing Iris' bows just at the east end of the Island and being very close to Erica. Maid Marian had made a try out towards the Cosmopolitan Dock and Erica followed her example, but Bonito elected to stand on the port tack when just clear of the Island and, we think, gained considerably by so doing. Both she and the Maid Marian stood straight down towards the man-of-war anchorage. Bonito gradually drawing up to the Maid and just off the Kowloon wharfs the race appeared to be a certainty, for one of them, the Maid Marian for choice; but here it fell calm and the Erica, followed by Iris, came stealing along inshore. Bonito first seemed to feel the ebb which had just begun to run, and gradually soaked out towards the middle of the harbour, where she succeeded in getting the southerly breeze, which all could see but which the unfortunate Maid Marian could not get to, while the Erica, working close inshore, seemed to hold a little easterly breeze all the time. From the time the Bonito picked up the south wind the result was near in doubt, as she could easily make the line without a tack. The Erica also picked up the new breeze before the Maid Marian and came in second, leaving only third place to the latter who, minutes earlier, looked all over the winner, which would have given the championship to the old ship. Now it is left between the Maid Marian and the Bonito, both being practically equal, and the championship will go to the one which can get home the earliest in the final, which will be sailed on April 22nd.

The race in the second class was practically a procession and ended as below. The Meteor and the Dart will also have a good struggle for the prize in this class.

The times of finishing and the marks up to date are,—

1ST CLASS.

Yacht	Time	No. of marks	Total marks
Bonito	4 0 0	10	43½
Erica	4 1 51	4	28
Maid Marian	4 2 27	1	44
Iris	4 4 3	0	23
Doreen	did not finish	0	19

2ND CLASS.

Meteor	4 7 1	10	63
Dart	4 22 23	4	61
Payne	4 28 31	1	18
Princess	did not finish	0	1

A serious outrage is reported from Woosung. According to the North China Daily News, on the 3rd inst. at about 2 a.m. a band of some ten men entered a pointsman's house on the Shanghai-Woosung railway at the latter station and stole a wooden box containing \$55 in Mexicans and a quantity of clothing, in doing which two men who were in the house at the time were wounded with knives whilst struggling to retain their property. One man was injured on the arms, shoulder, and head with a knife, the other sustaining internal injury by a blow on the chest. The robbers got away with their booty and attacked a crossing-keeper's house at Chiang-wan where they murdered a man, who it is supposed was one of the gang, but having probably raised some objection to the way the spoil was to be divided was promptly dispatched. The robbers it is surmised are some disbanded soldiers.

ROYAL ARTILLERY SPORTS.

The regimental sports of the Royal Artillery were concluded in exceptionally favourable weather on the ground of the Hongkong Football Ground on Tuesday afternoon, the 10th inst., in the presence of a large assembly, including H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., Lady Gascoigne and the Misses Gascoigne. Some capital sport was witnessed. The R.A. Challenge Cup, presented to the company obtaining the greatest number of marks, was carried off by the 38th S.D.R.A. Captain Langhorn was awarded the prize in the officers' race, and the seamen of H.M.S. Centurion secured the honours in the tug-of-war. The first prize in the one-mile race fell to Bombardier Frost. By the kind permission of Lieut.-Col. the Hon. R. H. Bertie and officers, the Band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers played a pleasing selection of music during the afternoon. The following was the committee:—President, Major Griffin, R.A.; Members, Capt. Waymouth, R.A., Lieut. Greene, R.A., 2nd Lieut. Lewis, R.A., 2nd Lieut. Smith, R.A., C. S. M. Stoker, C. H. M. S. Lowry, Sergt. Bliss, Corpl. Hanney, Corpl. Boyman.

RACE for H.K.S.B.R.A.—First prize \$6; second \$3. Gunner Thakar Mal, 1; Gunner Naik Maula Bux, 2. Time 1.3 1/5.

HALF-MILE HANDICAP.—First prize \$6; second \$3. Bom. Griffiths, 1; Bom. Woods, 2. Time 2.21 3/5.

TILTING THE BUCKET (teams of two).—First prize \$6; second \$4. Bom. Holding and Gunner Mann, 1; Bom. Woods and Gunner Norris, 2.

LONG JUMP.—First prize \$10; second \$5. Bom. Frost (16 ft. 9½ in.) 1; Gun. Hedges, 2.

TROWING THE CRICKET BALL (three throws).—First prize \$10; second \$5. Gunner Norris (101 yards 1 ft. 2 in.), 1; Gunner Lowe, 2.

HURDLE RACE—120 yards, 10 flights.—First prize \$10; second \$5. Bom. Frost, 1; Bom. Griffiths, 2. Time 19½ sec.

MOP CONTEST (IN PAIRS).—First prize \$6; second \$4. Gunner Hall and Bom. Woods, tie; Gunner Hare and Lentz.

GIRLS' RACE (50 YARDS HANDICAP).—First prize \$3; second \$1. Miss Philpin, 1; Miss Rope, 2.

WHEEL RACE (9 PR. GUN WHEELS ROUND A POST).—Gunner Smith, A. J., 1; Gunner Philpin, 2.

HUNDRED YARDS' RACE.—First prize \$10; second \$5. Bom. Frost, 1; Bom. Robinson and Griffiths tie. Time, 10 4-5th sec.

HIGH JUMP.—First prize \$10; second \$5. Bom. Frost (4 ft. 8½ in.), 1; Gunner Curren, 2.

VETERANS' RACE (200 yds. minimum of 12 years' service; two yards start for every year over 12).—First prize \$8; second \$4. Sergeant Bliss, 1; Gunner Philpin, 2.

OBSTACLE RACE (once round).—First prize \$10; second \$5; third \$3. Cor. Monaghan, 1; Bom. Holloway, 2; Gunner Steadman, 3. Time 1.54½.

BOYS' RACE (100 yards handicap).—First prize \$4; second \$2. T. Philpin, 1; J. Pope, 2.

PUTTING THE WEIGHT (16 lbs).—First prize \$10; second \$5. Sergeant Ruth (33.1½), 1; Bom. Griffiths, 2.

QUARTER MILE RACE.—First prize \$10; second \$5. Bom. Frost, 1; Bom. Griffiths, 2. Time 57 2/5 sec.

OFFICERS' RACE (120 yards handicap; one yard start for every year over eight years' service).—First prize cup. Captain Langhorne, 1.

COSTUME RACE IN RICKSAWS (teams of two distance 200 YARDS).—Prize for best costume \$4; prize for first pair \$4. Sergeant Ruth and Gunner Curren.—Best costume Gunners Liddington and Woolner, 1; Gunners Murphey and Byrne, 2.

BAND RACE (¼ mile).—First prize \$8; second \$4. Corporal Enoch, 1; Private Gregory, 2.

ONE MILE RACE.—First prize \$10; second \$5; third \$3. Bom. Frost, 1; Gun. Panther, 2; Gun. Curren, 3. Time 5.15. Frost won easily.

SACK RACE.—Bom. Robinson, 1; Bom. Woods, 2.

SERGEANTS' RACE (open to Members of R.A. Sergeant's Mess (120 yards Handicap).—One yard start for every year's service over 10. First prize, value \$10; second prize, value \$5. Sergeant Robinson, 1; Sergeant Bliss, sen., 2.

HALF-MILE FLAT RACE (open to Garrison, Navy, and Police).—First prize \$15; second \$10; third \$5. Pte. Amesbury, R.W.F., 1; Sheehan and Axeworthy, dead heat. Time, 2.3 1/5.

CONSOLATION RACE.—Gunner Stevens, 1; Gunner Morley, 2.

TUG OF WAR.—Winning team \$30. Final Round.—Seamen H. M. S. Centurion beat 38th Co. E.S.D.R.A.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

FIELD BATTERY.

The Field Battery held their third competition for the Belilios Cup on the 8th inst. The following are the ten best scores:—

	200 yards.	300 yards.	400 yards.	500 yards.	Handicap.	Total.
Gunner Lapsley	31	32	31	31	6	100
Gunner Humphreys	29	32	28	31	11	100
Sergeant Dr. Brown	29	35	32	31	1	97
Corporal White	30	34	30	30	4	97
Gunner Sayer	30	32	20	15	97	
Gunner Grey	33	32	31	sc.	96	
Gunner Pidgeon	32	34	30	sc.	96	
Gunner Stewart	31	33	31	sc.	95	
Gunner Alves, A. A.	33	31	21	10	95	
Bomb. Henderson	24	25	25	17	91	

"A" MACHINE GUN CO.

The first shoot for the new cups took place on the 8th inst., resulting in a win for Gunner W. J. Mayson with a total of 95 points.

The following are the six best scores:—

	200 yds.	300 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	Handicap.	Total.
* Gunner Mayson	23	32	30	10	95	
* Sergt.-Major Smythe	29	28	30	sc.	87	
Sergeant Lammert	25	27	30	sc.	82	
Bomb. King	19	25	21	10	75	
Gunner Wadehouse	21	29	14	10	74	
Gunner Hursthouse	17	25	16	15	73	

"C" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The usual monthly picnic of the above company passed off very enjoyably on the 8th inst., the weather being favourable for good scoring. The "Stewart" Cup for volley-firing, for which only two teams competed, was won by Sergeant Bevan's team, which was composed of the same men as won on the previous occasion, when the Sergeant was absent. A spoon competition was also held, the following being the best scores (military marking):—

	400 yards.	500 yards.	Handicap.	Total.
* Gunner Shoolbred	25	2	8	54
* Corporal Sherwin	26	20	7	53
Gunner Michael	23	17	12	52
Gunner Gidley	26	15	7	48
Sergt.-Major Rodger	14	23	9	46
Sergeant Smillie	26	15	5	46
Gunner Baldwin	22	24	—	46
Gunnr. McCordquodale	18	20	8	46

* Winners of Spoons.

TRICK CYCLING IN THE HAPPY VALLEY.

Mr. Sid Black, the champion trick bicyclist, gave an exhibition of his skill at Happy Valley on Saturday. The fame of his performances having preceded him, quite a large number of people were attracted to the show, and had the weather been more propitious we are sure the crowd would have been much larger. The whole affair was thoroughly appreciated, Mr. Black being repeatedly applauded for his clever tricks, and occasionally the feats were positively startling. The ground was rather too rough to allow some of the tricks having a fair chance, but enough was seen to show that Mr. Black has every right to his title of champion. He was assisted by Mr. Jenkins as a "tramp cyclist" and by a clown. After the tricks, Messrs. Black and Jenkins gave an exhibition of bicycle polo, which quite took the fancy of the audience. Some of the shooting and dribbling was wonderful and we shall not be surprised if, as at Singapore, the game is attempted here by expert cyclists.

HONGKONG.

At the Magistracy yesterday a Chinaman was fined \$25 for selling lottery tickets in the Hongkong Hotel on the previous evening.

Owing to the Easter holidays, Sir John Carrington, Chief Justice, has ordered the next Criminal Sessions to commence on Thursday, the 19th instant, instead of on Wednesday, the 18th instant, the usual date for the commencement of the Criminal Sessions in each month.

A meeting of the Executive Committee Diamond Jubilee Fund was held on the 9th inst. in the office of the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., at 5 p.m., Mr. Chater himself being in the chair. The result of the meeting, which was private, has not yet been communicated to the Press.

The return of the number of cases of communicable disease in the colony during the week ended 7th April shows that there were six cases of plague (one in the harbour) and six deaths; one case of enteric fever, outside the city; one case of scarlet fever and one death, the victim being a European in the Queen's Road Barracks; two cases of small-pox, and two deaths.

The following acting appointments are gazetted. Mr. T. J. Wild as Government Analyst during the absence of Mr. Frank Browne; Mr. R. F. Johnston to be Private Secretary to H.E. the Officer Administering the Government, in the absence of Viscount Sirdale; Mr. W. J. Tatcher as Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department during the absence of Mr. Charles Ford; Mr. Newman Mumford as Government Marine Surveyor during the absence of Mr. R. C. Dixon.

A Chinaman who is acting as contractor's foreman, in connection with some alterations which are being effected in a building in Queen's Road West, has been arrested for attempting to bribe Sanitary Inspector Wolmer. On the 5th instant the Inspector, noticing that some scaffolding which had been erected obscured the light of an adjoining building and that a quantity of rubbish had been thrown into the channelling, told the defendant to remove both, and then went away. In the afternoon the defendant went to the Inspector's house and offered him \$5 if he would not interfere. The Inspector reported the matter to Inspector Baker, and the man was taken into custody and brought up at the Magistracy on the 6th inst. The defendant was committed for trial.

On the 6th instant Messrs. Geo. Fenwick and Co. launched a steel stern-wheel steamer intended for the West River trade. Her dimensions are:—Length, between perpendiculars, 147 feet; over all, 148 feet; breadth, 31 feet; depth, 8 feet. She will have three decks and will be capable of carrying a large number of passengers in addition to her cargo. There will be accommodation for a number of European passengers, and the boat will, we are told, be fitted up with every convenience, including electric lighting. The engines are compound surface condensing, supplied with steam from a large multitubular boiler working at 120 lbs. pressure per square inch. There will also be a steam windlass and capstan fitted. This boat is the first of two building by Messrs. Geo. Fenwick and Co., who inform us that the second one is expected to be ready toward the end of the year.

At the Harbour Office on the 6th inst., before Mr. Basil Taylor, the master of the *Rising Star* ferry launch was charged with unlawfully failing to observe the rules of the road. Lance-Sergeant Burchell, of the Water Police, said he was on duty in No. 8. police launch at noon on the 4th inst. when he saw the *Rising Star* coming from Kowloon. The *S. S. Glaucus* was swinging with head to windward and witness was steering to pass under her stern. The *Rising Star* was passing on witness's port bow. He blew his whistle to check her, but the defendant took no notice. He continued on his course until within nine or ten yards of the stern of the *Glaucus*. The *Rising Star* also kept on her course, trying to pass between him and the stern of the *Glaucus*. Seeing that a collision was inevitable if he kept on his course, witness ported his helm and avoided a collision, by about three feet. The *Rising Star* went straight on and never attempted to take any steps to avoid collision. A fine of \$15, or seven days, was imposed.

Captain D. Macdonald of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps has been granted twelve months' leave of absence.

The Queen's Exequatur empowering Mr. Michel Oustinow to act as Consul for Russia at Hongkong has received Her Majesty's signature.

While coming up from Saigon the M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons* met with an accident to her shaft-couplings, which has necessitated her going into dock to have them renewed.

Her Majesty has not been advised to exercise Her power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 38 of 1839, an Ordinance to amend the Companies Ordinance, 1877.

The appointment of Mr. H. G. Nicolle to be an Official Member of the Legislative Council during the absence of Commander Rumsey, R.N., is notified in the *Gazette*.

The benefit of the Women and Girls' Protection Ordinance is already being felt. The admissions into the Garrison Hospital last month were 62 per cent. less than those for the corresponding month last year.

Another armed robbery was reported to the police on the 9th inst. a licensed junk belonging to a woman named Cheung Yeung and her daughter-in-law being attacked by three men armed with revolvers as the junk lay in Hung Hom Bay at about one o'clock on the 8th inst. The men assaulted the women and stole four boxes containing money and clothing of the value of \$70 and jewelry of the value of \$30; total \$100.

The 8th inst. was the eighty-second anniversary of the birth of Christian IX, King of Denmark, a fact which was brought to the notice of residents in Hongkong by the Royal Salute fired at noon and the decorations at the Danish Consulate, on the ships in the harbour, and elsewhere. On Hongkong fell the pleasant duty of welcoming back Prince Waldemar, who arrived on Sunday morning from Nagasaki by the Danish cruiser *Valkyrien*, and so was in time to witness the honours paid to his father. As, however, was the case when he visited us in January, he was here only as captain of the *Valkyrien* and not in any other official capacity. The *Valkyrien* left for Singapore on 11th inst.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 9th inst. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for competition four lots of Crown land. (Mr. W. L. Saught bought Inland Lot No. 1,584, which is situate in Wanchai Road, for \$5,400 (upset price \$2,260); annual rent \$68; contents in square feet 5,332. The other lots are all situate at Causeway Bay. Inland Lot 1,536 (400 square feet) fetched \$1,380. Li Ki was the purchaser. Upset price \$800; annual rent \$54. Chu Ng bought Inland Lot No. 1,557 for \$3,950 (400 square feet), upset price \$1,600; annual rent \$110. Inland Lot 1,548 was sold to Wong Man Lau and Lenng Hing for \$12,470; upset price \$5,520; annual rent \$250; contents in square feet 1,840.

The United States Monitor *Monterey* came in to the harbour from Manila on the 9th inst. just before sunset and saluted the port with 21 guns. The *Monterey* was convoyed by the collier *Scindia*, which has on board new boilers and fittings for the *Monterey* and was expected to tow her; but the weather being so favourable and the sea smooth the *Monterey* came all the way under her own power. The *Monterey* is of the Coast Defence Monitor type and is heavily armoured and armed. She has come here for repairs, fitting new boilers, piping, etc., and will probably require several months' work at the hands of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company. The Officers of the *Monterey* are:—Captain G. W. Pigman; Lt.-Commander J. H. Bull; Lieutenants I. L. Purcell, C. H. Mathews, G. Tarbox; Ensigns D. M. Wood, W. C. Asserson; Surgeon I. W. Kite; P.A. Paymaster, W. V. H. Rose; Gunner J. Donald; Carpenter W. P. Harding; Warrant Machinists J. Crocker, R. C. Steele, J. J. Horan; Clerk, J. S. Stronger. Those of the *Scindia* are:—Commander J. M. Miller; Lt.-Commander J. B. Howard; Lieutenants J. Rodgers, F. J. Sabell, D. W. E. Kedgran, J. W. Oman, E. Moile, Jr., and C. Davis; Ensign A. W. Prias-y; Assistant Surgeon W. B. Grove; Assistant Paymaster D. M. Addisue; Boatswain C. Crone; Chief Carpenter J. B. Fletcher; Carpenter O. C. Jones.

The Sanitary Board notify that all domestic buildings must be provided with backyards before the 1st of June next.

At the Magistracy on the 6th inst. a Chinaman was charged with being in possession of two boxes containing seventy-three Mauser rifles. A Chinese detective found them in the man's cargo-boat. The full penalty of \$100 or three months was imposed.

In connection with the two unsafe walls in Caine Road, to which we referred in an article in last week's issue, it is pleasing to notice that precautions have been promptly taken to prevent the collapse of the walls and the possibility of any danger to the public. One has been strongly "shored up," and a large quantity of earth behind it removed, and no doubt the other will be similarly dealt with.

Another armed robbery was reported to the police on the 6th inst. It appears that at about a quarter-past one in the morning five men armed with revolvers entered the house at the Coffee Plantation at Causeway Bay, and having intimidated the inmates ransacked the premises and then left, loaded with clothing and jewellery. On the depredation being reported to them the police scoured the city and were fortunate enough to arrest five men, who were found to be in possession of some of the stolen property.

An attempt to steal clothing from the verandah of house No. 139, Queen's Road West, early on the 6th inst., was frustrated by a Chinese constable appearing on the scene at the right moment. He noticed that a boy, who had evidently climbed up the water-spout to the verandah, had collected some clothing together and was in the act of throwing it down to a man who was waiting below. Seeing the constable, the man below bolted, but was caught by another constable attracted to the spot by a police whistle. The boy was also taken into custody. At the Magistracy on the 6th inst. the man was sentenced to two months' hard labour and the boy was ordered to receive 12 strokes with the birch and to be sent out of the colony.

Our attention has been called on several occasions lately to the danger to passers by from the reckless manner in which heavily laden trucks are taken down-hill and also to the insecure way in which huge piles of goods are fastened on these vehicles. An informant mentions two cases which came under his notice in Wing Lok Street the other day. In one case there was a large number of kerosine tins piled up on a truck, and as they had not been properly fastened there was a man on each side with a long bamboo keeping them from falling. Suddenly, however, the tins collapsed and fell upon an old sewing woman who was seated on the edge of the causeway. She was injured but fortunately not seriously. At any rate there was nothing the matter with her tongue, with which she poured upon those responsible for the accidents epithets the reverse of complimentary. Immediately after this a truck laden with furniture came along, coolies with long bamboos steadying the load in this case also, this pile also came to grief, but fortunately no one was hurt.

Our contemporary, *O Porvir*, has an article dealing with the question of house-rent in Hongkong. "Generally speaking," says the writer, "no one but the landlords can live in peace and security that he will not suddenly receive a letter demanding a 20, 30, or even 40 per cent increase of rent, in default of which the tenant must quit." Such power in the hands of the landlords should, *O Porvir* claims, be impossible under such a Government as we have in Hongkong, and it calls therefore for the appointment of a special committee to enquire why speculation in property should be allowed to attain such gigantic proportions as to injure almost the whole of the population. The authorities would win universal gratitude by imposing some such restriction as obtains in the case of usurers. The landlords have their rights, but they exceed them when they act as they have been doing; and it is incumbent on the good sense of the Government to take immediate steps to avoid the ruin of respectable families. This ruin can only be prevented, according to *O Porvir*, by some strict official valuation of property and the action of a committee such as is suggested.

The Russian battleship *Petropavlovsk* sailed on the 9th inst. for Nagasaki.

Mr. J. R. Crook has been elected a member of the Church Body during the absence of Commander R. M. Rumsey.

Lord Henry Thynne, who has been here on a visit since the 4th inst., left yesterday morning by the *Chingtu* for Australia. He had a most unpleasant experience on his way here, as he was kept in quarantine for no less than three months at Honolulu.

Warren's Circus opened on the 12th inst. at West Point. The site chosen, opposite the Harbour Master's office, is easily accessible to all. The new tents have been thoroughly fitted up inside, and there is nothing of that bareness usually associated with the interior of circuses.

It has been found necessary to change the dates of the Indian Famine Fund Entertainments, owing to unforeseen circumstances. They will now be given on Thursday 19th, Friday 20th, and Saturday 21st inst. The Box Office, it should be noted, will not be open until Tuesday, the 17th, at 10 a.m.

Messrs. Carlowitz & Co. inform us that they have received a telegram from the owners, Messrs. Rob. M. Sloman & Co., Hamburg, to the effect that their new steamer *Verona*, while on her way from New York to China, had to be beached near Suez where she is undergoing the necessary repairs. She is expected, however, to be in a condition to continue her voyage on the 5th prox.

Telegraphic communication with Iloilo, Bacolod, and Cebu was interrupted on the 10th inst. owing to the failure of the Manila-Iloilo cable.

The police have not yet been able to discover the three men who attacked two women in a junk in Hung Hom Bay on the 9th inst. and stole money, etc., to the value of \$100. We understand, however, that the men were armed with iron bars, and not revolvers.

At the Magistracy on the 10th inst. a Chinese doctor living at Shauiwan was charged with neglecting to report a case of small-pox which he had attended. Tan Hing, of 147, Market Street, said his wife was taken ill and she sent for defendant, who attended her from February 18th to February 25th, when she died. The defendant told him that she had been suffering from small-pox. Sanitary Inspector McMichael said it was reported to him that there was a case of small-pox at 147, Market Street. He went there and viewed the body and sent it to the Mortuary. He subsequently received a telephone message that the woman had died from small-pox, and he had the house disinfected.

At the Magistracy on the 9th inst. Mr. Gompertz conducted an enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Lo Fok, who died in Victoria Gaol on Saturday from injuries received as the result of a fall on the 3rd inst. The deceased was admitted into the gaol on the 20th February under sentence of three months' hard labour for larceny. At about a quarter past five on the morning of the 3rd inst. he and some other prisoners were being taken out of the gaol into the yard, so that they might remove some rations. As they were going down a side-way the deceased tripped and fell on his head, a distance of about eleven feet. Dr. Bell made a post-mortem examination of the body on Sunday, and as the result he expressed the opinion that the man died from hemorrhage of the brain. A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

The Chinaman who snatched \$150 in paper money from the hands of another Chinaman on the *Praya* on the 1st instant has been captured and sentenced to six months' hard labour. The complainant had come up from Singapore and was proceeding to Swatow. He had changed some money on the *Praya* and when a little distance from the shop stopped to count it. While he was thus engaged two men stole towards him unobserved. One seized him by the queue and pulled him to the ground, while the other snatched the notes from him. Both then made off. This happened shortly after seven o'clock in the morning, so that there were but few people about at the time. The complainant could not supply the police with a description of the men, but a hawk who happened to be near recognised one of them as a man who used to live with him, and this enabled the police to run him to earth.

It is notified that Consul Kallen is recognized as in charge of the Imperial German Consulate during the absence of Dr. Rieloff.

The visitors to the Library in the City Hall during the week ending 8th April included 389 Europeans and 91 Chinese those to the Museum 189 Europeans and 1,252 Chinese.

A considerable increase in the plague figures occurred in the twenty-four hours between noon of the 10th and noon of the 11th inst. Five fresh cases and four deaths were recorded.

Chan Su, a partner in the rice-shop at 122, Bouham Strand, who was charged with embezzling \$4,000, has been discharged by Mr. Gompertz the evidence brought forward not being strong enough to warrant a conviction.

Mr. Ugo Nervegna, late Italian Consul in this colony left on Monday by the French Mail for Rome, where he is assigned to staff duty in the Army during the coming military manoeuvres. A large number of friends went aboard to see him off.

Fifty pages of the *Government Gazette* are filled with new Rules made under section 18 of the Prison Ordinance, 1899. As it is less than a year since the last set of Rules were promulgated there seems to be an attempt to rapidly attain perfection in Gaol administration.

The five men who were arrested for committing an armed robbery at Causeway Bay were brought before Mr. Gompertz at the Magistracy on Saturday and remanded. One of them was banished from the colony in January, and he excused himself for taking part in the robbery by saying that his mother was sick and he wished to assist her.

The *Taksang*, which arrived on Saturday from Bangkok with a cargo of rice, brought sad news with her. Captain Smith, formerly in charge of the vessel, died on the voyage up of cholera and was buried at Puluwayo on the 1st inst. He was for many years engaged in the Yangtze trade, and leaves a widow in Shanghai. The *Taksang* was quarantined on her arrival.

The increased cost of living in the colony is weighing heavily on all classes of the community, and agitations for more pay are general. Yesterday the rice and kerosene coolies at West Point demanded a rise in their pay, and stopped work. They said that not only have they to pay more for their food, but that the rents are higher, the crusade against cocklofts instituted by the Sanitary Board having made matters worse still. We understand that it is likely that some concession will be made to them.

At the Magistracy on the 9th inst. a billiard marker at the Hongkong Hotel named Su On, was charged with stealing a gold watch from an officer connected with a coasting steamer. The complainant was playing at billiards in the Hotel on Saturday night. He had taken off his coat, and on going to look at his watch, which he had left in his coat, he found that it had gone. On Sunday the prisoner, who was suspected of the theft, was taken to the Central Police Station. He said that if an officer would accompany him down to the Hotel he would show him where the watch was. Accordingly Sergeant Munson was sent down with him and the prisoner, going to his box, took the watch out.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The plague regulations imposed at Calcutta against vessels arriving from Japan have been removed.

Mr. Kynnersley was to leave Singapore for Penang on the 6th inst. to take up his appointment as Resident Councilor of Penang.

In the Government estimates for the coming financial year, a sum of £2,000 is provided for the completion of reconstruction, etc., of the British Legat on House at Bangkok.

Bangkok is suffering severely from an epidemic just now. Cholera is the worst of these, and there is little wonder at this, seeing that the Menam river, from which the water-supply is taken is brackish at this time of year.

At a meeting of the Singapore Club, on the 3rd instant, an emendation was made in the voting conditions applicable to candidates for election. Whereas one black ball in five has previously excluded a candidate, it was carried that one black ball in seven shall exclude. The decision has, however, to be ratified at a further meeting.

The new Japanese battleship *Shikishima* arrived at Singapore on the 29th ult., and was expected to leave on the 1st inst.

Manila exchanges announce the wreck of the chartered American government steamer *Antipolo* on her way from Vigan to Manila. The place of the wreck was just off the Bolinao peninsula, on a reef of the island of Santiago.

A Wuchang despatch reports the arrival at that city on the evening of the 27th ultimo of Li Ping-heng, appointed last winter Inspector General of the naval and military forces in the Yangtze Valley. As a protest against all innovations from the despised West, Li Ping-heng travelled overland all the way from Peking via Honan, but his houseboat was finally towed by a steam launch sent by Viceroy Chang when crossing the Yangtze over to Wuchang.

The vigorous action of the police in the Chinese quarter of San Francisco seemed for a time to have had some effect. Very soon, however, the highbinders' warfare became as bad as ever again and on the 5th ult. two prominent Chinese merchants were killed and another wounded. Drastic measures are looked for to put down the quarrels of the Tonga, and the Chief of Police has threatened that it may become necessary to drive the Chinese out of San Francisco altogether. The Chinese Consul-General, Ho Yew, questions the right to do this.

Intelligence comes from Vancouver that on the 5th ult. Senator MacDonald, of British Columbia, proposed in the Senate to place a poll tax on Japanese entering Canada. He was told by Senator David Mills, Minister of Justice and Government Leader in the Senate, that it was not in the interest of Canada at the present time to adopt hostile legislation against the Japanese, and that the Government would oppose the proposed poll tax. However, the Government is in a minority in the Senate, and the resolution might command, it is said, a majority vote in the upper house.

The site for the future capital of Batang Padang, says the *Perak Pioneer*, has now been finally decided on, and a reserve of about 1,500 acres is to be marked out. It is about a mile and three quarters from the present town of Bidor, and adjoining the railway line. Contracts have been issued for felling a portion of this reserve. An assistant engineer is daily expected to be stationed there, and personally attend to the marking out of the town. The site chosen by Mr. Ingall, and approved by the Secretary to Government, is undoubtedly the best in the neighbourhood.

According to a Tokyo contemporary, the number of Chinese settlers in Korea is about 3,500, namely, 1,500 in Seoul; 1,500 in Chemulpo, and some 500 elsewhere. Yet they manage to do a larger part of the country's foreign trade in imports than the Japanese. The figures are:—

	Exports.		Imports.	
	To Japan.	To China.	By Japanese Merchants.	By Chinese Merchants.
1897	Yen. 1,638,000	Yen. 357,000	Yen. 1,785,000	Yen. 1,911,000
1898	Yen. 1,379,000	Yen. 1,097,000	Yen. 4,390,000	Yen. 4,389,000

It will be observed that even in exports the Chinese are overtaking the Japanese.

A Japanese Economist, Mr. Seitaro Kamisake, says that a great feature in the relations of Japan and Korea is the number of Japanese subjects who have settled or are living in Korea. In 1892 their number was 9,137; in 1896 it was 12,574. Now it is probably more than 20,000. Gensan has 4,000 foreign residents, of whom about nine-tenths are Japanese. Fusan looks like a Japanese town. Its population is about 60,000, and the Japanese community is a self-governing body, possessing waterworks, common schools, &c. In the other ports, Japanese residents are everywhere influential. Mr. Seitaro asserts that if the economic influence of Japan were withdrawn from the Peninsula, it would suffer from inanition. Japan is the real power which makes Korea live and act as a nation. On the other hand, he points out that Russian influence only touches Korea at outward points, and he calls on Government to consider carefully this important fact and take a wise diplomatic course in regard to the Peninsula which is practically a Japanese possession.

The cost of living being higher now in Manila than it was in the siege of 1898, an appeal to the Government is vigorously supported. It is pointed out that the Spanish Government fought the rings successfully, even in 1897 and that what Spain could do should be within the power of the United States.

Indo-China will have the largest space among the Colonial Exhibits at the Paris Exhibition says *L'Avenir du Tonkin*. The buildings assigned to her come under four groups. There are:—(1) Tonkinese Palaces, modelled on those of Co-Loa; (2) Building for Indo-Chinese products in the form of the Cholon pagoda; (3) Building for Cambodian exhibits, after the celebrated Phnom at Phnom Penh; (4) Annamese Forest Lodge and Indo-Chinese Theatre. There is also to be a native settlement in the Exhibition. King Norodom has sanctioned some dancers from his own private company going to Paris to assist in the Ind.-Chinese Theatre. *L'Avenir* fears that the result of this latter visit will bring a fresh avalanche of missionaries to Indo-China after the close of the Exhibition.

The last copy to hand of *The Kobe Herald* publishes the following telegram, dated, Seoul, 1st April:—"Russia has obtained permission to buy a tract of land not over 10 Korean miles in area, at the entrance to Masampo, and the affair is concluded. The land first demanded by Russia measured over 10 Korean miles outside the concession at Masampo. The means of the quick settlement of the affair was the strong attitude taken up by Japan. The Russian Naval officers are reported to be displeased with the issue of the affair." On this *The Kobe Herald* says that it is understood that the tract of land now to be taken by Russia by purchase lies within the limits in which it has hitherto been allowed to foreigners to hold land. It is believed therefore that the real status of the new Russian possession is that she will choose a tract within the boundary and the Korean Government will buy it up for her from the holders. Japanese rights at Masampo will not be damaged and the Korean Government has also secured that the section allotted to foreigners at Masampo shall not be encroached on by Russia.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA. EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900 lbs.	1898-9 lbs.
Yokohama	26,556,645	25,825,974
Kobe.....	14,707,735	13,918,631
	40,621,381	39,774,405

SILK.

CANTON, 31st March.—Silk.—Tsatlees and Reels.—A few settlements of new Season's Silk are reported, but no details have transpired. Filatures.—A fair business has been done during the first few days of the fortnight under review at the prices mentioned in the last report. Owing to the firm attitude maintained by reellers and to the continued dullness of the home markets, the demand for all kinds of Filatures suddenly stopped, and almost nothing has been done during the last ten days. Notwithstanding the large quantities taken off the markets, prices weakened steadily, and orders could probably be executed at \$10/25 under the quotations given below. Short-reels.—Although the New York market is reported to be very dull, about 200 bales of Best 2 and No. 2 14/16 found buyers. From prices paid quotations are: \$98 for Yu Kim Kwong Wo Tai and Kun Lun Ta 14/16, \$975/970 for Koun King and Chun Sun Hang 14/16. Waste.—Weak very little doing. Appended are quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 1/11½, and £c 2.50 per Do la.:

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th April. Prices are further declining, the market being dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.80 to \$7.90	pc.
do. " 2, White...	7.15 to 7.20	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.35 to 5.40	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.20 to 5.25	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.90 to 7.95	"
do. " 1, White...	7.20 to 7.25	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.25 to 5.30	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.10 to 5.15	"
Foochow Sugar Candy...	11.70 to 11.75	"
Shekloong "	9.80 to 9.85	"

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 13th April.—The upward tendency continues, the market being good. Quotations for Formosa are: \$96.50 to \$97.00; sales 230 piculs.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Satou*, sailed on the 2nd March. For Havre:—3 cases feathers, 5 cases bristles, 5 cases China in, 6 cases bamboos, 7 cases earthenware, 8 cases fans, 10 cases black woodware, 30 cases preserves, 6 cases human hair, 94 cases chinaware, 165 rolls matting, 20 cases camphor and 420 packages canes. For Havre and/or Marseilles:—4 rolls matting, 5 cases preserves, 10 cases tea, 16 cases fire-crackers and 37 cases sundries. For Havre and/or Bordeaux:—24 rolls matting, and 69 rolls mats. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—9 packages canes, 8 cases chinaware, 12 cases bristles, 24 cases human hair, and 27 cases blackwoodware. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—10 cases bristles, 600 bales broken cassia, and 604 cases camphor. For Hamburg and/or London:—380 bales canes. For Hamburg:—1 case woodware, 2 cases curios, 2 cases gongs, 5 cases sundries, 8 cases human hair, 10 cases Chinaware, 10 cases lanterns, 15 cases teastick, 32 cases preserves, 36 cases bristles, 40 cases essential oil, 72 rolls matting, 100 bales broken cassia, 131 casks wood oil, 200 cases cassia buds, 201 packages tea, 212 cases cassia, 397 bales duck feathers, 425 packages canes, and 554 cases camphor. For Hamburg and/or Bremen:—128 rolls matting. For Hamburg and/or London:—106 packages canes. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London:—0 cases bristles. For Antwerp:—31 packages canes. For Amsterdam:—21 cases Chinaware. For Copenhagen:—200 cases cassia.

Per P. & O. steamer *Parramatta*, sailed on the 31st March. For London:—16 cases cigars from Manila, 285 packages tea, 12 bales duck feathers and 22 packages horns from Foochow. For London option Manchester:—200 bales waste silk, 94 bales canes, 5 cases silks, 173 cases Chinaware, 5 cases copperware, 47 cases blackwoodware, 6 cases camphorwood trunks, 55 rolls mats, 8 cases cigars, 12 cases sundries. For Marseilles:—200 chests tea, 40 bales canes, 55 bales raw silk, 2 cases silks, 4 packages matting, and 2 cases curios. For Lyons:—99 bales raw silk. For Gibraltar:—10 cases cigars.

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 12th April.—Small business at a decline of \$1½ per picul. Market closes quiet. Stock, about 2,000 bales.
Bombay... 25.50 to 26.00 picul.
Kurrachee... — to —
Bengal (New) Rangoon... 26.50 to 27.00 picul.
and Dacca... —
Shanghai and Japanese... 27.00 to 29.00
Tung-how and Ningpo... 27.00 to 29.00
Malacca (Best)... —
Sales: 300 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated HONGKONG, 12th April.—There is a better feeling apparent in this market, but so far no actual improvement has taken place. Here and there some slight fluctuations are noticeable, but on the whole the market may be termed unchanged, although in the early portion of the interval some violent alterations in prices had been experienced. Sales to a fair extent have been reported and more business is pending, but holders are firmer in their demand, and a temporary check is for the moment being experienced. A resumption of demand on a more liberal scale is confidently looked for on the turn of the month; meanwhile the market closes quiet but steady.

To people outside the trade, the erratic course of our Yarn market during the last two or three months has been perfectly bewildering, and even our active dealers and buyers are entirely at a loss to grasp the situation when they find large importers coming out strong and eager buyers in the beginning of a week, and anxious and hasty sellers at its close, not to mention the incessant and free supplies from India.

Local Manufacture.—No business has been reported in the production of the Hongkong S. W. and Dyeing Mills. Japanese Yarn.—Violent fluctuations have taken place in the values of these spinings, but at the close the market appears to have settled

down and shows a decline of one to two Dollars on previous quotations. Sales reported were:—100 bales Milk No. 16s. at from \$106 to \$108½, and 840 bales No. 20s. at 100 bales. Blue Fish at from \$109 to \$111, 400 bales Tokyo at \$108, 275 bales Akita at from \$108 to \$111, 400 bales Settsu at from \$110 to \$115 and 25 bales Hirano at \$111.

Raw Cotton.—Holders of Indian staple have come down greatly in their ideas of values and business has been resumed at a decline of \$2 to \$3 per picul, say 113 bales Bengal at \$26, 112 bales at \$24 and 19 bales at \$17, in all 241 bales Bengal, leaving an estimated unsold stock of about 20,000 bales on the market. No business has been reported in Rangoon or China Cotton, stocks nil. Quotations are:—Bengal \$21 to \$28, American \$26 to \$30, Rangoon \$20 to \$27 and China \$27 to \$29.

Exchange on India has shown little or on fluctuations and closed yesterday at Rs. 145½ for T/T and Rs. 146½ for Post and 71½ on Shanghai, to-day being a Bank Holiday.

Latest advices from Shanghai to the 30th ultimo, report the undernoted business in Indian, Japanese and Local spinings since last circular, viz:—

Indian.—Total sales 673 bales, comprising 110 bales No. 10s., 25 bales No. 12, 50 bales No. 16s. and 488 bales No. 20s., prices showing a decline of one Tael all round and market closing unsteady. Estimated unsold stock 74,000 bales.

Japanese. Transactions have been chiefly amongst the natives on the basis of Tls. 75½ to 79½ for No. 16s. and Tls. 82 to 83, prices showing a decline of Tls. 2 on No. 16s. and one Tael on No. 20s. and market closing weak. Estimated stock 21,800 bales.

Local.—With the exception of a single sale of 200 bales No. 14s. at Tls. 78½ no further business is reported.

RICE

HONGKONG, 13th April.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.45 to 2.50
" Round, Good quality	2.55 to 2.60
" Long	2.85 to 2.90
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	2.70 to 2.75
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	2.90 to 2.95
" White	3.45 to 3.50
" Fine Cargo	3.75 to 3.80

COALS.

HONGKONG, 13th April.—No Sales reported Market dull. In Japanese small sales at \$7 to \$8. Quotations are:—

Cardiff... ..	\$26.50 ex ship, steady
Australian... ..	12.25 to 12—ex godown, steady
Yubari Lump	\$11.00—ex godown
Miki Lump	8.00 to 8.50 nominal
Meji Lump ...	6.50 to 8.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double screened	11.50 to \$2 ex godown
Hongay Lump ...	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay dust... ..	5.50 — —
Briquettes	11.60 — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 14th April.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*:—1,000 bales No. 10 at \$91 to \$99, 600 bales No. 12 at \$91 to \$105½, 250 bales No. 16 at \$101 to \$102, 500 bales No. 20 at \$107 to \$111. *Bengal Cotton*:—110 bales at \$26.50 to \$27.

METALS *Yellow Metal*:—100 piculs, Japan, at \$47.80.

COTTON YARN:—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$ 83.00 to \$110.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24,	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24,	116.00 to 120.00
" 28 to 32,	126.00 to 133.00
" 38 to 42,	147.00 to 154.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.00 to 2.10
7 lbs.	2.20 to 2.35
8 4 lbs.	2.95 to 3.80
9 to 10 lbs.	3.90 to 4.85
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.75 to 2.95
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 3.95
61 to 66 "	4.25 to 5.90
Fine	5.20 to 8.00
Boat-folds.	4.50 to 6.45
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.60
T-Cloths—6lbs. (42 in.), Ord'y.	1.85 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ")	2.10 to 2.30
6lbs. (32 ")	2.00 to 2.20
7lbs. (32 ")	2.55 to 2.90
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.90 to 3.60

Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.80 to 7.20
FANCY COTTONS—	per piece
Turkey Red Shirtings—14 to 18 lbs.	1.75 to 7.20
Brocades—Dyed	4.20 — 5.70
Chintzes—Assorted	per yard
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.08½ to 0.17
Velveteens—18 in.	0.26 to 0.65
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	per dozen
WOOLLENS—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops, 1.00 to 1.75	
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. 1.55 to 1.75	
Long Ells—Scarlet	per piece
Assorted	6.70 to 10.30
Camlets—Assorted	6.80 to 10.40
Lastings 30 yds., 3 inches, Assorted	13.20 to 30.00
Orleans—Plain	13.50 to 23.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	8.50 to 10.00
METALS—	per pair
Iron—Nail Rod	4.20 to 16.00
Square Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 6.55 to —	
Swedish Bar	per picul
Small Round Rod	6.35 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	6.55 to —
Wire 15/25	10.25 to —
Old Wire Rope	7.35 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	7.60 to —
Australian	11.50 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. 42.50 to —	
Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 42.50 to —	
Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 42.50 to —	
New Chop, 14/20 oz. — to —	
Composition Nails	8.50 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.25 to —
Tin	82.00 to —
Tin-Plates	per box
Steel ½ to ¾	8.50 to —
SUNDRIES—	per cwt. case
Quicksilver	7.35 to —
Window Glass	per picul
Kerosene Oil	178.00 to —
	per box
	per 10-gal. case
	2.86 to —

THURSDAY, 12th April

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	111½
Bank Bills, on demand	111½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	111½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	111½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	111½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	20
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.46
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.50½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	200½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	77½
Credits, 60 days' sight	18½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145½
Bank, on demand	146½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	45½
Bank, on demand	146½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	3½ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2½ % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	117½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	3 % pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2½ % pm.

ON BANGKOK:—

On demand	61
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buyin. Rate	10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per ad	52.85
BAR SILVER, per oz	27½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON—Aleinous (str.), Prometheus (str.), Malacca (str.), Massilia (str.), Machaon (str.), Candia (str.).	
FOR MARSEILLE—Yarra (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Massilia (str.), Bingo Maru (str.), Normannia (str.).	
FOR BREMEN—Weimar (str.).	
FOR LIVERPOOL DIRECT—Hector (str.).	
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG—Königsberg (str.), Sibiria (str.), Bamberg (str.), Andalusia (str.).	
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Sikh (str.), Kinshiu Maru (str.).	
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI—Empress of India (str.).	
FOR PORTLAND, O.—Monmouthshire (str.).	
FOR SAN FRANCISCO—City of Peking (str.), Gaelic (str.), America Maru (str.).	
FOR NEW YORK—Pathan (str.), Geo. F. Hay.	
FOR SAN DIEGO AND KOBE—Energia (str.).	
FOR AUSTRALIA—Eastern (str.).	
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY—Yamata Maru (str.), Bormida (str.).	

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 12th April.—With but few changes in rates the market continues quiet and dull and closes without any special feature or business.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai in the early part of the week were placed in small lots at \$318; later, however, shares offered at \$317 and found only small buyers, and the market closes quiet at the latter rate. Nationals are still enquired for at \$28½ to \$29 without bringing shares on the market.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders are enquired for at \$54 and small sales are reported. North Chinas and Yangtzes have changed hands at quotations also a small lot of Cantons at \$130. Unions are wanted at \$235 without bringing shares on the market. Straits neglected and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been placed in small lots at \$300 and \$29½; Chinas at \$80.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao unchanged at \$30 buyers and \$30½ sellers, with sales at both rates. Douglases continue on offer at \$51 without bringing any buyers on the market. Indos remain steady to form at \$92 with unimportant sales. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled weak with sellers at \$7.40 and later at \$7.30; reported small sales at \$7.50, market closing quiet at \$7.25. Olivers have been on offer at quotations without business. The last crushin. is advised by wire as 280 oz. from 500 tons with working for 27 days. Jelebus have changed hands at \$12.90 and \$12.75. Great Eastern at 70 cents. Raubs continue dull and quiet at quotation without any business to report.

REFINERIES.—Both China Sugars and Luzons continue neglected with no business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled much weaker and a few shares on offer have brought the market down to 490 per cent. premium with a small business to report. Kowloon Wharfs in the early part of the week changed hands at \$87.86½ but later with probable sellers Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been placed during the week at \$1.6, \$1.26½ and \$1.27, closing with buyers at the former and sellers at the latter rate. Hotels continue neglected and have ruled rather weaker at \$12½, with only very small sales at that rate.

West Points are still obtainable at \$47 without business. Humphreys after small sales at \$9.85 have improved to \$10.25 and close with sales and buyers at the latter rate. Kowloon Lands unchanged and without business.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs are enquired for at \$38 without bringing any shares on the market. In the absence of local business quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the Northern Circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been in some demand and have changed hands in fair lots at \$29½, \$29½ and \$30, closing however somewhat easier at \$29½. Watsons have changed hands at \$16½. Electrics at \$12½. Ices at \$166 and China Providents at \$9.75 and \$9.85 and \$10. Tramways and Campbell and Moorer are both enquired for in a small way without bringing any shares on the market.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$125, sellers
China & Japan, ordv.	\$4	\$1 p. ct. prem. =
Do. deferred	\$1	\$5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$29, buyers
Foun. Shares	\$8	\$29, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$16
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10.
China Sugar	\$100	\$130.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 400.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 57.
Hongkong	\$100	\$38, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$6½, sales & sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$48, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$24, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$162½, sellers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$12, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$2, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$165.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$121, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$166, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$85½, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$400, ct. prem. =
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$737½, sales & bys.
China Fire	\$20	\$130, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$30, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$54, buyers
North-China	\$25	\$297½, sellers
Straits	\$20	Tls. 170, sellers
Union	\$50	\$1, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$235, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$127, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10.25, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$26, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$47.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$41, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$320, sells. [sellers
Gt. Estn. & O'donian	\$5	70 cts., sellers, New
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cts.
Jelebu	\$5	\$12.75, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	20 cents sellers
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$5½, sellers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$4.25, buyers
Punjom	\$6	\$7.30, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.40.
Raubs	15s 10d.	\$59, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$20½, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$100.
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$10.10, sellers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$10.10, sellers
Do.	\$5	\$5.50.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$51, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$30, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$92, buyers
Shell Transport and } Trading Co. }	\$100	\$260.
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$18½, sellers
Tehrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$6, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$11.
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37½	\$47, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$16½, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

April—

ARRIVALS.

- 6, Thordis, Norw. str., from New York.
 6, Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., from Saigon.
 6, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
 7, Taksang, British str., from Bangkok.
 7, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 7, Hailoung, British str., from Swatow.
 7, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 7, Taifu, German str., from Saigon.
 7, Bankoku Maru, Jap. str., from Hongay.
 7, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
 7, Michael Jensen, German str., from Ileilo.
 7, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
 7, Shanghai, British str., from Moji.
 8, Dr. Hans Jurg Kjer, Nor. str., from Java.
 8, Germania, German str., from Bangkok.
 8, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 8, Kwangles, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 8, Onsang, British str., from Saigon.
 8, Progress, German str., from Tournon.
 8, Tonkin, French str., from Yokohama.
 8, Valkyrien, Danish cruiser, from Nagasaki.
 8, Valkyrien, British bark, from Rajang.
 8, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 8, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 8, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 9, Kwangs, British str., from Canton.
 9, Alcinous, British str., from Liverpool.
 9, Peiyang, German str., from Hongay.
 9, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
 9, Queen Adelaide, British str., from Moji.
 9, Heidelberg, German str., from Kobe.
 9, Monterey, Amr. monitor, from Manila.
 9, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
 9, Scindia, Amr. str., from Manila.
 9, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 9, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 10, Bamberg, German str., from Hamburg.
 10, Kinshin Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 10, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
 10, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 10, Kweilin, British str., from Newchwang.
 10, Progress, Russian str., from Wuhu.
 10, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 11, Centurion, Brit. battleship, from Practice.
 11, Bormida, Italian str., from Bombay.
 11, Breconshire, British str., from Tacoma.
 11, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 11, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 11, Edgar, British cruiser, from Devonport.
 11, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
 11, Pinguey, British str., from Singapore.
 11, Japan, British str., from London.
 11, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
 12, Indecendent, Ger. str., from Samarang.
 12, Eskdale, British str., from Moji.
 12, Glen-hiel, British str., from London.
 12, Lesbury, British str., from Cardiff.
 12, Nerita, British str., from Shanghai.
 12, Kingsing, British str., from Canton.
 13, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 12, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 12, Franz Schwalbe, Danish str., from Barry.

April—

DEPARTURES.

- 6, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Foochow.
 7, Benvenue, British str., for Saigon.
 7, Wosang, British str., for Tientsin.
 7, Shansi, British str., for ingpo.
 7, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 7, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 7, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 7, Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
 7, Amara, British str., for Singapore.
 7, Urano, Austrian str., for Bombay.
 8, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 8, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Ayr, British str., for Kutohinotzu.
 8, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 8, Eastern, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Centurion, British battleship, for Practice.
 9, Vale of Doon, British bark, for Rajang.
 9, Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
 9, Snevia, German str., for Kiaochau.
 9, Petroparlovsk, Russian battleship, for Nagasaki.
 10, Kwangs, British str., for Shanghai.
 10, Hailoung, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
 10, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 10, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 10, Whampoa, British str., for Amoy.
 10, Diamante, British str., for Manila.

- 10, Koenigsberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 10, Maeduff, British str., for Saigon.
 10, Shanghai, British str., for Bombay.
 10, Thorhis, Norw. str., for Shanghai.
 11, Valkyrien, Danish cruiser, for Singapore.
 11, Pros er, Norw. str., for Swatow.
 11, Kweilin, British str., for Canton.
 11, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
 11, Alcinous, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 11, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 11, Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
 11, Telartos, German str., for Singapore.
 11, Iris, British bark, for Freemantle.
 11, Heidelberg, German str., for Hamburg.
 12, Centurion, British battleship, for S'hai.
 12, Chingtu, British str., for Australia.
 12, Progress, Russian str., for Canton.
 12, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 12, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Saigon.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Königsberg*, from Singapore, &c., Messrs. v. Gramatzki, M. Paulsen, H. Paulsen and 100 Chinese.

Per *Formosa*, from Swatow, Mr. Cooper.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Messrs. Stickney and Brnbn, Mr. and Mrs. Faber, Mr. Glissman, Mrs. Glenn, Dr. and Mrs. Sanger, Messrs. Parker and Costa, Mrs. Kite, child and amah, Messrs. Dietrick, McCall, Mr. and Mrs. Ah See, Mr. S. Knapp, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. Sutcliffe, 2 children and servant, Mrs. Merriweather and Mr. Smith.

Per *Wongkoi*, from Bangkok, Mr. and Mrs. Philips, Mrs. Anderson and child and Mr. Smith.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Messrs. Ignato Marcovic, John Davis and Chas. Johnson.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Lennox.

Per *Sandakan*, from Sandakan, Mr. and Mrs. Angier, Messrs. Posenby and E. Lane.

Per *Tonkin*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Messrs Hoages, Hermanns, Miss Southey, Mr. Figge, Mr. Loureiro's 2 infants and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Taga, Mr. and Miss Jorge and child, Messrs James Gray and Donce Junth; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Rivero, infant, boy and amah, Messrs Isaacs, Schmid and Mackillon; from Nagasaki, Messrs Hasegawa and Nakasawa, Mrs. Ito Mrs. Ichika, Messrs Fat and Fook, for Saigon, from Nagasaki, Messrs Tanka, Nishimura, Matsuchi and Inouye, for Singapore, from Shanghai, Capt. Inohard and Dr. Giddy; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. de la Tour and Mr. Hydrosen; for Marseilles, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Russel Border and governess, Messrs Solonan and Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. Sennet, 2 children and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Robigus de Schneidaner and infant, Mrs. Knobel, 2 children and governess, Mr. and Mrs. Loureiro, Mr. Ewig, Mrs. Malone, Mrs. Ress and 3 children, Mrs. Brysson and 3 children, Mrs. Lyon and infant, Messrs Bourré Albert and Amédée; from Yokohama, Mrs. Schmid and baby, Mr. and Mrs. Crib, Messrs Conil and Colomb, Mr. and Mrs. Marty and boy, Mrs. Schmid's servant and Mr. Igarashi; from Kobe, Messrs Inabata, Fugunura, Tamino, Nakai, Narase and Matsudaira; from Nagasaki, Mr. Ingloft.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. Drion, Mrs. Rouse and 2 children, Sisters Muisour, Anna Reinhard and A. R. Samson, Messrs Schwarzenbach, Léonard Booh, Bernard Siveismann, Mrs. Rouse's amah, from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Warren, daughter and infant; from Batavia, Mr. Schulz; from Singapore, Messrs L. A. Rodrigues, Alex. Feb, Carl Franke, Leong Man San and servant, Wong Yale Hung, Look Hoch Chow, Chia Chee Hong, Ho Wha Chun and Takahashi; from Saigon, Messrs Conor, Gaubert, Gabriel Vallor and Ng. V. Dien, for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Consul de Villezas, Mr. Marcel Feit, Mr. and Mrs. Yea Ting Sing, Messrs Linart, Develay, Pichon, Mignot, Zenon Gilson, Chambers, J. Muller, Ant. Plaisan, McCann, Brown, Herman Hausen, J. Brouhon, Sibiet and Ernest Clemann; from Singapore, Messrs Merghelynk and Richards; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Mr. Crémazy; from Singapore, Mrs. Omaki, Mrs. Omitan and Mrs. Orino; from Saigon, Messrs Lie Palme, Povio and Desriac; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. Muller; from Singapore, Mrs.

Shinnan and Mr. Hori; from Saigon, Mrs. Okamisan; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs H. Merecki, Lechevalier de Wouters, Reynand, P. A. Lehouey, Le Menaz, Gantier, Mahé and Le Preard; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Baner, Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. Sher-rington.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Brown, Bryson and Tuay and 64 Chinese.

Per *Kawachi Maru*, from Kobe, &c., for Hongkong, Messrs. K. Uchida, M. Taruki, J. Shibahara and T. Takahashi; for Singapore, Mr. Aitken; for Port Said, Rev. L. B. Tabo, Miss Tabo; for Antwerp, Mrs. Ballagh, Miss Ballagh, Miss B. N. Ballagh and Master H. C. J. K. Ballagh; for Marseilles, Messrs. K. Shignohi, S. Moriyama, M. Anezaki, S. Kajima, T. Date, T. Nagao, K. Ishiguro, M. Ohashi, S. Nosa, T. Yonedga, G. Nishimura and M. Ito; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Brindley, Miss Pash, Messrs. K. Urano and K. Nakamura.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Nicholson, child, infant and nurse, Mrs. R. W. St. John and two sons, Mrs. J. F. Allen, Messrs C. Freeman, J. N. Seymour (and daughter), M. Tehiyeda, D. S. Hughes, J. H. Bachelor, A. Gent, Miss Nina Smith, Mr. F. L. Elliot, Col. A. H. Turner, Messrs W. F. Payne, A. G. Weale, H. C. Brushfield, Mrs. Abbot, Miss Melton, Mr. G. Okada, Mrs. Yong Shi, 2 infants and servant and Mr. Oscar Bug.

Per *Japan*, for Hongkong, from London, Lady Carrington, Miss Carrington, Mr. A. Collins, Lieut. G. Ogilvie, Lieut. W. Lyne, Mrs. Lyne, Miss Cartwright, Mr. H. E. Oakley, Miss Oakley and infant, Messrs G. M. Discombe and Rutherford and Capt. G. H. Gwynne; from Singapore, Messrs E. L. Shenton, Gilchrist and native servant, W. A. Hudson, A. Muroott and S. Tullis; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs. Consins, 3 children and 1 infant.

DEPARTED.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, for Shanghai, from Bremen, Messrs P. Breyer and Cuno Sievers; from Antwerp, Mr. Alf. de Deyn; from Southampton, Miss Spurling, Messrs C. H. Wang, F. Shen, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Blount; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Quen, Mr. and Mrs. Wicke, Mrs. Fritze, Messrs L. von Below, M. Pfenninger, Carl Markan, G. Borkwetz, A. Weng, C. W. Schmidt, Otto Bookholtz, F. W. Haussner, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Rydberg, Messrs Shen, Shan, H. S. Woo, H. Y. Woo, C. Yen, C. L. Yen, Christensen, and Chr. Watsaas; from Port Said, Messrs L. Penarde, Al Pesaro, E. Bortolussi; from Colombo, Mr. C. M. Hay; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Tjader, Messrs Staehelin, Ho Ten Shing, C. L. Tilden and O. Schwayenberg, Mrs. M. Lewin, Mrs. M. Alexew; from Hongkong, Capt. von Hoffmann, Baron von Diepenbroik Gruter; for Kobe, from Genoa, Mr. J. Dulgen, from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. G. Da Costa, Misses M. A. da Costa and A. F. Remedios, Messrs F. F. Gutierrez and F. A. Ribeiro; for Yokohama, from Bremen, Mr. F. Friedrichs; from Genoa, Messrs F. Hermann, A. H. Dare, E. Meregalli and Emil Orlik; from Naples, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cheerkow, Messrs Suyaki, Shiraishi, L. E. Sperry and W. Coester; from Penang, Messrs Cheah Chen Foh, Foo Boon Sean and Foo Choo Choon; from Singapore, Messrs E. B. S. Edwards, F. G. Scheffler and S. Harnay; from Hongkong, Princesses S. D. Singh, B. D. Singh, Messrs A. Imhoff and O. H. Hales.

Per *Java*, from Hongkong, for London, Miss Norton, Master Playfair, Master Langhorn, Messrs A. S. P. Read, R.N. and H. J. Britten, R.N.; for Singapore, Mr. W. E. Keogh.

Per *Tonkin*, from Hongkong, for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. P. Marty and 2 children, Messrs. H. W. Brazier, C. J. Williams, A. Levy, August Levy, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. da Silva, Miss M. da Silva, Mrs. M. R. Duarte and 2 children, Lieut. Figueiredo, Mr. and Mrs. Laurans and 5 children, Colonel Baylie, Capt. Thiery and Mr. A. Stark; for Port Said, Mr. U. Nervagna; for Bombay, Mr. H. J. Karanjea; for Colombo, Mr. E. O. Brownlow; for Singapore, Messrs J. J. Francis, W. Tappenbeck, Hipburn, Beattie and A. Frepp; for Saigon, Mr. Yeng Seng and servant. Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Messrs. E. de la Toier and John Sutherland.

Printed and Published by D. WARREN SMITH, at 29, Wyndham Street, Victoria, Hongkong.